



May 20, 2020

Fellow 1995'ers,

As you likely just received the University's formal announcement, we wanted to confirm that Princeton announced today the formal decision to not host Reunions 2020. Given the escalating and uncertain trajectory of the Coronavirus pandemic, this was the only responsible decision, albeit a very difficult one. The last time Reunions was not held was in 1943-1945 because of World War II, and today we find ourselves in a global conflict of a different and unfamiliar variety. We fully support President Eisgruber's decision and are coordinating very closely with the University as well as several other major Reunion classes to develop the best possible plan for a postponed Reunion. We are in the preliminary phases of this planning, but our hope and anticipation is that our 25th Reunion will be postponed until May 2021 – stay tuned. We are on it and actively driving University discussions to make sure our class can party “like its 1995.” Speaking personally, we are getting increasingly excited to be a part of what would be the biggest P-Rade and Reunions ever – hopefully as more details emerge you all will share in our enthusiasm.

As you can imagine, now that there has been an official decision not to hold Reunions this year, we have a lot of financial details to sort out in the near term. Not least of which is how we can fairly and responsibly handle all the registration, housing, and additional “swag” payments already made. We will be balancing what monies can easily be returned to all of you today, with what funds we need to hold back for expenditures already made, most notably our class Jackets. Please be patient and we will have another detailed update in the near term on this important topic. As previously indicated, it would be much appreciated if as many of you as possible can plan to roll your individual class registration payment to cover Reunions 2021. For those of you that do, we are hoping to distribute our class Jackets over the coming months so you can do any desired tailoring and wear them with pride at events leading up to and including our eventual “25th”! Finally, we know that many of you spent money on airfare and hotel rooms. The airlines have anecdotally been mostly cooperative with refunding tickets during this time period, as have some (but not all) of the local hotels. It would continue to be helpful if classmates can share in our '95 Facebook group their experiences on this point so we can direct the University where to apply appropriate pressure as they have pledged their support on this matter.

In light of the disrupted state of the world today and what each of us is experiencing in our individual lives and communities we wanted to share several thoughts for reflection:

- Prioritize your health and that of your loved ones and family members. If you are not yet infected with COVID-19 (as we assume some of our class is), take these weeks and months of “shelter in place” and “social distancing” to reset, revive and start new healthful habits. These are stressful times for most of us – being healthy may be the best way to make it through this time mentally and physically strong.
- Reconnect (virtually!) with your family, close friends and classmates. With most people working, parenting, studying, living from home – we have more time in the day. While we know from our own personal experiences that our work and family lives are at the same time more complicated and intense – connecting with our closest relationships is essential to maintain strong emotional health. We are all in this together. One benefit of our 25th Reunion milestone is that we all have likely experienced the enlightened ability to have “real” conversations and cut through the b*s* and posturing of younger years.
- Remember the spirit of “In the Nation's Service.” Lots of people in this immediate P'95 community, and certainly extended community, are struggling as a direct and indirect result of this pandemic. Lend a hand. Have extra compassion. Look for ways to help family, friends and neighbors. This is what we as Princetonians have always been about.

We and the broader Reunions team are so looking forward to seeing all of you at our rescheduled Reunion. Please continue to be patient as we sort out all the details. We can genuinely say with immense gratitude how understanding and supportive the entire class has been through this unexpected detour on our collective Journey. Remember Two Things: 1) “Good things come to those who wait,” and 2) “Celebrate we will, because life is short but sweet for certain.” In hindsight, 2020 was never a good year for a reunion! Can't wait to see you all and we'll be back in touch soon.

Be Safe,

Bryce & Rick