Dear Student,

Welcome to Oxford College of Emory University! As Oxford’s dean, I am delighted that you have chosen to begin your undergraduate journey with us. I want to acknowledge that this moment in your life should be a most festive one—time for commencement and other gatherings to mark all that you have experienced, learned, and accomplished during high school. Please know that we cannot wait to celebrate your arrival at Oxford, to recognize your success as an outstanding high school graduate, and help you launch into your college career. You have much to look forward to at Oxford and across Emory University.

You are now already a member of Oxford’s distinctive educational community, and I hope you will take advantage of the multiple opportunities we will provide you this summer to engage with your new classmates and your faculty and staff. In fact, given this extraordinary and strange time of COVID-19, I invite you to take the time to set your own goals for your college education. One of the advantages of a close-knit community like Oxford is that faculty and staff stand ready as resources to help you find your way, to make a great transition into college, and to explore opportunities for your future.

Emory University is doing all it can to host an on-campus academic and residential learning experience for the Atlanta and Oxford campuses this fall. What that looks like may take several forms, and our planning scenarios include in-person classes, some remote learning, and various combinations based on what we can accomplish safely. Please know that, as a global leader in public health, Emory is uniquely positioned to make thoughtful and informed decisions. In whatever ways the public health situation evolves, we will maintain the highest standards for your educational outcomes as well as the health and safety for our students, faculty, and staff.

COVID-19 FAQs for incoming first-year students are available here. As soon as the university’s fall 2020 plans are available, we will share them with the entire Oxford community, which of course now includes YOU.

Again, my warmest welcome to Oxford College and to Emory University. I look forward very much to meeting you soon.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Hicks, Dean
William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Religion
Oxford College of Emory University
douglas.hicks@emory.edu | 770.784.8300