

Hello, I would like to welcome each of you to **CERCA Week 2020**.

Was excited to learn the leadership of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, department chairs, and other event planners decided “the show must go on.” Undergraduate student-faculty research is a hallmark of a UW-Eau Claire experience. Students and their faculty mentors work throughout the entire year to prepare their posters, create juried submissions, and perfect their oral presentations. Collectively, the events held during these annual days of research involve literally thousands of student work hours and hundreds of my faculty and staff colleagues to make them the huge successes they are.



Patricia A. Kleine  
Provost and Vice Chancellor for  
Academic Affairs

Am grateful for the energy and vision of Dr. Catherine Chan, the new executive director of ORSP, who saw how these events could occur in a virtual environment. I also want to thank the faculty, staff, and students who have embraced the challenge of uploading their presentations, their creative works, and research posters to the CERCA Canvas site.

This format also gives us an opportunity, for the first time, to provide a broader audience for capstone presentations this year in public history and Latin American Studies AND for getting more of you engaged in the mathematics problem-solving workshops known as the Math Retreat.

I said in a recent email to students, we will emerge stronger as a campus despite these challenging times. Whether we are six feet or six miles apart, we have learned technology can bring us together in ways we never thought possible.

Through the first-ever, virtual CERCA Week, we will continue the tradition of excellence in undergraduate student-faculty research; we will celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Provost’s Honors Symposium; we will marvel at the creativity of the artists among us; and we will shine a spotlight on research done by our first-year students.

I congratulate all of you whose work we are going to explore over the next few days. It is time to turn off our social media, open the CERCA Canvas site, sit back and enjoy because “the show must go on.”

Be safe. Be well.

Patricia A. Kleine  
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs