Date: March 19, 2020

To: The SMHS Community

RE: Changes to Ross Hall Building Access

As the number of COVID-19 cases has increased and we have received more guidance on social distancing and limiting gatherings, we have made the difficult decision to close Ross Hall to all users, with the exception of a few essential employees effective Saturday, March 21 through April 5, 2020.

Employees who have been approved for continued access to Ross Hall will be contacted directly by SMHS Chief of Staff Sharon Boyd by 6pm today. If you feel that you need access to the building and you were not contacted directly by Ms. Boyd, please reach out to her via email at sboyd@gwu.edu.

**Please note - any physician/health care provider that currently parks in Ross Hall will still have access to the parking garage.**

The closure of Ross Hall means that we will also close the Himmelfarb Library building during the same time period. Although physical access to the building will be restricted to designated staff, Himmelfarb Library will remain digitally open, and access to remote library resources and services will remain available to all SMHS, Milken Institute School of Public Health, and GW School of Nursing students, faculty, and staff. This includes all electronic collections, electronic document delivery, reference services, and support for faculty and student research.

Our priorities are the safety of the GW community and support for continuity of instruction as well as research. Ensuring that faculty and students have access to the information and services they need in digital format or other online formats will best enable us to meet both of these priorities moving forward.