



Office of the Provost

TO: SPU Faculty and Staff
FROM: Laura Hartley, Provost
RE: 2020-21 Office Closure Dates
DATE: September 2, 2020

Colleagues:

I eagerly anticipate the day when we can once again gather our campus community in celebration, worship, and education, but, as you well know, that day may be a long time coming. 2020-21 will necessitate innovation and stamina from each of us. Chapels and events for which we would once close our offices and gather will look different in the months ahead, though the spirit behind these events is the same. I share your longing for corporate worship, for a chance to meet and mingle and talk about our work, our lives. For now, think of these traditional office closure dates as the fulcra we must reorient ourselves around as we practice physical distancing, out of love for our neighbors, and follow the measures mandated by the state and local government. I hope you will join me in this different form of gathering. ***Times are based off of the Autumn Quarter block schedule and are subject to change.***

Given the strained schedules and uncertainty of this year, we realize that not every office will be able to close at the times specified below. Therefore, while we encourage faculty, staff, and students to attend as they are able, we also want to acknowledge and support the offices that will need to remain open for the benefit of our students.

Similarly to last year, we are moving all of the events that typically take place on the Friday of Commencement weekend to Saturday, since our Undergraduate Commencement ceremony will be falling on a Sunday evening. Therefore, there will not be the typical office closures for Ivy Cutting and the Graduate Commencement ceremony. More details on this to come.

2020

Opening Communion / State of the University

Wednesday, September 9

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

[Virtual Event](#)

Opening Chapel

Tuesday, September 15
10:30 am – 11:20 am

[Online](#)

Days of Common Learning

“The Future of Work” – Speaker: Andrew Yang

Monday, October 5, 2020

1-1:50 p.m.

Theme: The Accelerated Digital Transformation of Our Lives and World

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

10:30-11:20 a.m.

Theme: Theology and the Future of Work

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

2:30-3:40 p.m.

Theme: Jobs of Tomorrow

Thursday, October 8, 2020

10:30-11:20 a.m.

Theme: Impact of Socio-Political Disruption on Diverse Populations

Friday, October 9, 2020

9:20-10:40 a.m.

Plenary Lecture: Andrew Yang

Virtual Event

Thanksgiving Chapel

No Thanksgiving Chapel due to the Autumn Quarter schedule

Advent Chapel

No Advent Chapel due to the Autumn Quarter schedule

2021

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Chapel

Tuesday, January 19

10:30 am – 11:20 am

Location TBD

Remembrance: Japanese American Incarceration – A Service of Lament

Tuesday, February 16

10:30 am – 11:20 am

Location TBD

Winter Quarter Closing Chapel

Tuesday, March 2
10:30 am – 11:20 am
Location TBD

Resurrection Week Chapel

Tuesday, April 6
10:30 am – 11:20 am
Location TBD

2021 Perkins Annual Lecture

Tuesday, April 27
10:30 am – 11:20 am
Location TBD

Celebration of Service

Thursday, April 29
10:30 am – 12:00 pm
[Royal Brougham Pavilion](#)

Spring Quarter Closing Chapel

Tuesday, June 1
10:30 am – 11:20 am
Location TBD

Please mark your calendars for these important events in the life of our community. For information on holiday closures, please refer to the [Human Resources wiki](#).

Blessings on you as we start an academic year like no other!

Laura Hartley

Provost

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