March 15, 2021

Dear Graduating Students:

I am delighted to follow up on President Salovey’s announcement today that the Law School will be able to hold an in-person commencement for students in May if public health conditions continue to improve. I am very much looking forward to honoring and marking the achievements of the remarkable Class of 2021. I’m especially glad that we will be able to welcome back students who wish to return to campus for the festivities.

In the coming weeks, our staff will be working hard to make sure your commencement is vibrant, celebratory, and inclusive for everyone involved, including those taking part remotely. While we wish your families and friends could join us on this momentous day, we must adhere to health guidelines to ensure the safety of our campus and the New Haven community. We will do everything we can to make sure the day is a special one for them as well. We will also be thinking of ways to further celebrate the Class of 2021 next year once we have a clearer picture of what public health conditions will look like.

More details on commencement will follow in the weeks ahead. The Law School will carefully follow all health and safety precautions to protect those participating in the event. Remote students returning to campus for commencement should look for additional guidelines from the University.

This past year has been an extraordinarily challenging time. As we head towards spring, this is one of the signs of a more hopeful future ahead of us. It brings me joy to think that we will be able to celebrate the launch of your professional careers together as a community.

Warmly,

Heather K. Gerken