Dear Spring 21 OCS Students,

I am writing with some important information to help you plan for next semester.

We know that these are very challenging times for students with so many variables at play related to the pandemic and educational programming and want you to know we are here to help you navigate these waters.

1. **Whitman OCS intends to notify all spring21 OCS students on Nov 6 about whether we will be cancelling spring21 OCS programs.** Student safety and wellbeing is a priority for us at Whitman College. As we have stated previously, the decision will be based on a variety of factors including: 1) government guidance about the safety of the destination, 2) the anticipated quality of the specific OCS experience in light of COVID precautions, and 3) host country medical infrastructure.

2. **Any student who no longer wishes to study abroad next semester due to COVID concerns or any other reason, should let their Whitman OCS Adviser and their program know if they wish to withdraw from OCS.**

3. **All spring 21 OCS students should register for Spring 21 classes at Whitman this week**, so that you have classes in case you cannot study away next semester. If you have not yet met with your major adviser, please do so right away. (All faculty have already been informed of the college’s plan to make a decision about spring 21 OCS in early November and know that we have recommended that you register for classes at Whitman as a back-up plan.)

4. **Contact Residence Life about your housing options soon by emailing on_campus_housing@whitman.edu if you think you may want to live on campus next semester** to secure a housing spot.

We will be in contact again later this week and thank you.

Sincerely,
Susan

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