Dear Student,

I hope you and your family are well and finding ways to enjoy the beginning of summer safely. I am writing with an update and context around bills for fall 2020, which will be released next Monday, June 15, through the electronic student portal.

We are continuing our consultation with New York State, public health, and medical experts toward our goal of offering as much of an in-person campus as circumstances will allow this fall. As a reminder, we will update you on the status of our in-person fall semester operations no later than July 1. We have committed to beginning our fall semester on time. Nonetheless, we know that when we are able to begin to restore an in-person campus, there will be members of our community who are unable to travel to campus, or who may feel more comfortable in off-campus housing, or will opt for a mix of commuting and online work from other locations. While we don’t yet have all the details finalized, we are committed to integrating remote or hybrid options within the curriculum, and will not treat these as a separate set of courses for “online students.”

We also wanted to provide additional explanation and context around room and board charges for fall 2020 bills. Though the number of rooms we will be able to offer students this fall still remains uncertain, the initial fall 2020 bill will include all costs, including room and board. Please know that if on-campus residency is not a viable option this fall, we will promptly refund any room and board charges. Given the uncertain impacts of the pandemic on all of our families, we are also allowing first year students to opt out of the residency requirement and commute from off-campus housing or remain at home.

As an option at this time, if you know you will be pursuing alternate housing opportunities for fall 2020, we have developed a form that you can use to notify the college of your decision, and we will process the appropriate adjustments to remove the room and board amounts from your bill within 10 business days.

We know that one of the formative elements of Sarah Lawrence is our residential living and learning community, and offering this option is not intended to predict or presume that we will not be able to continue that in 2020-2021. However, if you know that you will not be requesting housing, we are making the opportunity available to have that portion of your bill adjusted at this time.

To notify us of a change in your fall 2020 housing needs, please complete this form (log in using your MySLC ID and password) to advise us of your proposed alternate plans, which may include:
Living in an off-campus apartment in Westchester or the metro NYC area ("off campus" status)
Commuting from a parent or family member’s residence ("commuter" status)
Remaining at home and engaging in coursework and co-curricular activities online ("online" status)

Please note that you are under no obligation to submit this form at this time; however, if you do intend to fall into one of these categories, we will be happy to proactively adjust the room and board charges and update your cost of attendance (for financial aid calculations) and readjust need-based grants if applicable.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kevin McKenna
Dean of Admission & Financial Aid