



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

March 3, 2021

During this critical and unprecedented past year, millions of women across the globe have been at the core of the fight against COVID-19. Despite personal hardships and health risks, women have shouldered the battle on the frontlines at work and home. Today, we come together to honor these heroic leaders who have taken on the monumental challenges posed by this devastating pandemic with humanity, grace and compassion.

Women are playing an outsized role responding to COVID-19, including as frontline healthcare workers, and statistics prove that the most visible of these essential workers are disproportionately women of color. I pay tribute to the incredible work of these inspiring women at Howard University Hospital, to whom we all owe a huge debt of gratitude. At the forefront of the fight with a boundless amount of strength and courage, they once again have answered the call and delivered in the face of immense difficulty.

"Women in Leadership: A Tribute to Howard Women Frontline Workers." Is there a more appropriate theme for the 5th annual International Women's Day celebration here at Howard? The brilliant women on the frontline, including physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, clinical researchers, environmental service workers, administrators and other personnel, deserve our collective praise for their selfless labor under dangerous conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I must also mention our generous faculty and staff who continue to invest in the future of our students while dealing with the challenges of today. Many of our dedicated female faculty have resumed in-person teaching, and staff members have carried on with their regular work routines under tremendously abnormal circumstances. These are the true heroes--women who inspire when it's hard to be inspired. This enormous self-sacrificing is honorable, so we honor you today.

Thank you sincerely, and may God bless.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tashni-Ann Dubroy". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Tashni-Ann Dubroy, Ph.D.

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

