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GEORGIA

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Dear Qiaoyu (Joy) Xiao:

As an international student graduating from the University of Georgia, I know you have clearly accomplished a great deal academically and personally. Completing a college degree while studying abroad, particularly during this most unusual graduation year, takes significant commitment and numerous sacrifices. You should be incredibly proud, as we are, of your achievement.

As Vice President for Student Affairs, I am privileged to interact with and support amazing students from across the state of Georgia, the U.S., and the world. Our international students hold a special place in my heart. From sharing vital intercultural perspectives and experiences to modeling great resiliency in navigating a new culture, you and your fellow international students have made invaluable and lasting contributions to our community.

In the days ahead, I am assured that your degree from UGA has equipped you not only with the critical knowledge and competencies for our increasingly interconnected world, but has prepared you to explore new cultures and develop friendships that will span the globe and last a lifetime. You have the preparation and responsibility to make a true difference in the world, and I know you will make it happen.

While your immediate future may lead you back home, to another part of the U.S., or perhaps to another new and exciting country, you will forever be able to call yourself a Georgia Bulldog. We are counting on you to stay actively engaged with UGA as alumni and leaders of communities around the world. If we can ever help you out in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Congratulations on your amazing accomplishment—UGA graduate! Be well, and best of luck!

Sincerely,

Victor K. Wilson

Vice President for Student Affairs