

Message from President Cook

December 6, 2023

Hello everyone. Since our time at NDSU we've really felt the warmth and generosity of the NDSU community. And here we are wrapping up the fall semester getting ready for the holidays and as all of you have all kinds of things coming together during the holiday season, we too have some news that we'd like to share with everyone.

So, this past semester I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I'm currently receiving treatment at Mayo and Roger Maris Cancer Center and they're both amazing facilities providing an amazing treatment plan that we are very confident in. But we felt that it was very important that we are honest and transparent and we share the journey that we are experiencing right now.

So, we really want you to know that this might be a bump in our road but NDSU is our priority and will continue to be our priority and we are going to continue to attend every and all events possible. My one little caveat is I am not supposed to be hugging if I'm going to be able to continue attending events.

And so, you have a motto about how you're getting through the days do you mind sharing that? Left foot, right foot, breathe. And that really is our goal through this. This is a bump. This is not something we ever expected nor does anybody ever expect this.

We just want to say thank you for your thoughts, your prayers, the cards, everything. It's amazing when the Bison community comes together how they really take care of their own and we want to say thank you to everyone.

So, we look forward to seeing everybody at commencement and graduation and over the holidays. And we hope you get to spend some time with loved ones and we really appreciate all of you. So, thank you all for your support. Yes, thank you very much.