**Hooding Ceremony Options for Spring 2020**

**April 20, 2020**

The MPA staff brainstormed a number of options for a socially-distanced hooding ceremony. These options are not mutually exclusive.

**1) Virtual ceremony**

--- Held prior to Evergreen’s virtual graduation ceremony on June 12th

--- Graduation speakers and hooding broadcast via Zoom

--- Can publish an extended program, perhaps with additional photos and well-wishes from faculty, prior to the ceremony (would need to be ready by mid-May)

--- Hooding is done by the student herself or by a loved one at home

Considerations

--- This option would parallel Evergreen’s plans for a virtual graduation.

--- Can expect many if not most students to participate in some way

--- Does not provide much opportunity for graduates to display regalia, particularly the Tribal Governance students who put a lot of time into their regalia.

--- Does not give a significant opportunity for graduates to celebrate with family and friends.

**2) Delayed In-Person celebration and/or hooding ceremony**

--- MPA program hosts a reception for graduates, family, and friends once social distancing restrictions are lifted.

--- If we do the virtual hooding ceremony, we would not repeat the hooding at an in-person event. But we could ask students to come with regalia so that their efforts get recognized.

--- Need to time the celebration so it does not overlap with times faculty are off-contract or with fall orientation

Considerations

--- The timing of a celebration is highly uncertain. We could plan for a date (perhaps in the fall quarter) but social distancing guidelines could change, forcing us to change the date. The uncertainty might frustrate students.

--- We might get more graduates to participate in a celebration if it can be done within a few months of graduation than if we wait for the June 2021 graduation.

**3) Invite Spring 2020 graduates to participate in the Spring 2021 hooding ceremony**

--- Parallels the invitation George Bridges has made for spring 2020 graduates to participate in the spring 2021 ceremony

Considerations

--- The added participants from spring 2020 may make the 2021 ceremony longer, more complex, and more costly. We expect that we will need two hooding ceremonies in 2021, one in Tacoma and one in Olympia. Managing this with the addition of spring 2020 graduates might increase the complexity.

--- Possibly the spring 2020 graduates will feel that attention is not on them at a spring 2021 ceremony.

--- May not have many participants from spring 2020, given the time delay

**4) Yearbook**

--- Produce an extended magazine or mini-yearbook that includes color photographs of students in their regalia, along with a biographical note.

--- Could include additional photos of the cohort that faculty and staff have collected; selected blog, Instagram, and Facebook entries that were posted while the cohort was in place; a remembrance of each student written by a faculty member.

Considerations

--- Could take some time to produce. Might not be feasible to do this before the spring 2020 ceremony

--- Unclear on cost (but if done in lieu of an in-person celebration, MPA might be able to manage the cost).

**5) Hybrid**

--- Some combination of these elements