

Parker Beverly 0:01
Hello, how are you?

Sloane Larsen 0:03
I'm doing well. How are you doing

Parker Beverly 0:04
Just fine. Thanks for asking. So, I'm going to start off here with some questions about your experience with the Coronavirus. If you could just answer these for me, that would be great. Of course. Okay, so could you tell me a little bit about yourself your name, what year you're in at Wake Forest, where you're from and what you plan on majoring in?

Sloane Larsen 0:25
Of course, my name is Sloane Larson. I'm from Providence, Rhode Island. I'm going to be a sophomore at Wake next year. And I plan on majoring in French and English with a minor in writing.

Parker Beverly 0:39
Awesome. So could you talk about the first time you heard about COVID-19? And When was the first time you realized it was going to affect your life?

Sloane Larsen 0:47
Yeah, of course. So I first heard about COVID-19 in my last class. I had three professors in that class and they told us to bring home our textbook. And everyone thought that was like a little crazy. Like there's there's no way that this is going to be a big deal. And I told that to some of my friends are like, Oh my gosh, like no way that's not gonna happen. So that's the first time I heard about it. And then I went home for spring break. And my friends and I had planned to meet in New York City for a night. And we went to go see a Broadway show. And while we were there, one of my close friends, his boyfriend got an email from his university saying that they were canceled for the semester. They're going online for the semester. And that was one we were like, Oh my gosh, this is going to affect us. We kept seeing on the news like all these school close schools closing. And then like the first big news about it being in New York City came out that night and we're like, oh gosh, this is scary. But yeah, I'd say when we were there. That was the first time where I was like, Okay, this is gonna massively affect my life. Yes.

Parker Beverly 2:11
And how did you feel about the decision of Wake for us to postpone in person classes? What was your reaction?

Sloane Larsen 2:18
At the time, I wasn't very happy about it, but I was also optimistic that we would go back. I knew it was the right decision to be made, but I didn't really know how COVID-19 was going to affect the country. And I think their decision to cancel for the entire semester was 100%. the right decision and what needed to happen.

Parker Beverly 2:43

Yes, so how would you describe your time at Wake Forest prior to COVID-19?

Sloane Larsen 2:49

Um, it was, I mean, I'm a freshman and being on campus in the spring, it was a great experience and it didn't feel like anything. It was like super bad just gonna happen. And to kind of have that drastic change of all of a sudden being like, okay, we're not going back that was is crazy. I was kind of like shell shocked like how is how is this happening? It was it's definitely an interesting feeling.

Parker Beverly 3:19

Definitely. So what is something that you missed out on because of COVID-19 either at Wake Forest or in your personal life?

Sloane Larsen 3:27

That's a good question. Um, I'm in an acapella group. And we had a couple of concerts that we were working on. And I had just started getting really close with a lot of the seniors by like the beginning of second semester, so I was really looking forward to enjoying these last few concerts with them and being able to like, have those kinds of concerts, always something exciting to look forward to. And it's definitely sad finding out that we were weren't able to have them. But again, with the situation that was going on, it was of course what needed to happen.

Parker Beverly 4:07

So what is your new normal? How would you describe your new normal?

Sloane Larsen 4:12

So, definitely a lot of staying at home, going on walks. Going to class, I took all my classes one online during the spring semester, and I'm taking a class right now. So a lot of what I do is just going into zoom for class, doing work. I'm spending time with family and Yak going on walks and just kind of enjoying a very calm life. Yeah.

Parker Beverly 4:44

Were there any classes in particular that you thought did a great job at the transition to online classes?

Sloane Larsen 4:50

Hmm. I think all of my classes in general did a really good job of transitioning online. I took a lot of discussion based classes. Such as French, my FYS, is my writing class. And it was definitely hard to mimic that same class time online, but I think they really worked hard to kind of keep those discussions going. And like making it work as best as it could. So I'd say and I would say like my math class was very feasible online. Lots of lectures, I think, teacher professors in general, put in above and beyond effort into trying to get these classes to be as successful as I could online.

Parker Beverly 5:37

That's fantastic. So how did you transition into your new normal and what factors of your life do you think affected the process?

Sloane Larsen 5:47

So it was definitely weird during that extra kind of week of spring break week gave us because I wasn't really sure what to do. I was really nervous about starting class online. And kind of just getting used to being at home having creating a schedule, I enjoy schedules. And that's why I really liked being on campus. But trying to keep that schedule going while I was at home was really important and kind of making life feel as normal as it could, kind of having a set time for all my classes to do all my work and just mimicking life as much as it could on campus at home.

Parker Beverly 6:29

Awesome. So how did you feel about virtual education as a whole?

Sloane Larsen 6:35

I definitely think in person classes are more successful. But I understand that that wasn't feasible at the time and it may not be in the fall. And although it's not my favorite, I think with the technology we have today, it's very possible and professors really put in that abundance Beyond effort to make it as successful as it can be. Yeah, so branching off of that, what what do you think campus life will be like in the fall, we get the opportunity to return. I think it'll be very different. I mean, all the social events, such as football games, like just hanging out with friends, I think they could all change drastically. And I think, if we go back to the Father will be rule set in place against, like, gatherings of certain sizes and all of that. I think people will definitely kind of have a grown appreciation for each other. And the ability to see people constantly on like, at college, and I think there'll be relationships will definitely be very different, like, in general.

Parker Beverly 7:50

Yes, for sure. So how has COVID-19 affected your relationships?

Sloane Larsen 7:55

So I've definitely gotten closer with my family. Um, my mom has recently started working out the house, like probably a year and a half ago. And she traveled a lot when I was younger. And it's been really interesting to be able to spend that extra time with her. Like, whether it's watching TV together when we're having lunch or just being able to chat more often, I've definitely grown closer with her. Um, and my brother has been he's a, he's a rising junior at Holy Cross. And he, the two of us, like grew kind of further apart when he started going to school. And it's been really interesting to kind of redevelop that friendship that we have as siblings and that's been really nice and just spending time with the family in general going on walks with my dad just a lot more talking and communication and yeah, and then with friends, um, I'm not super good at keeping in touch with people over technology. I like being personal people, but I'm reaching out to old friends has been something that I've been trying to do a lot. And just catching up with people

that haven't seen in a while and calling them and facetimeing people it's been, that's been really important.

Parker Beverly 9:14

So great. Um, so what effect has COVID-19 had on your values?

Sloane Larsen 9:21

Um, I definitely appreciate a lot of the little things more. And I think that's going to really change in general, when I go back to campus and one like life returns to normal is just like appreciating those little moments that you can often just overlook. It makes you kind of take a step back. Really appreciate everything. And, like also spend time on yourself and justrelaxing for a little bit and just reading Selecting overall.

Parker Beverly 10:01

Yes, definitely. I have one last question. This is a bit of a fun question. So, did you and your family come up with anything fun or interesting to do to pass the time during quarantine?

Sloane Larsen 10:12

Um, well, my mom always she kept saying, we're gonna learn poker, we're gonna learn poker, but ended up not happening. But we have played a lot of board games. Lots of like trivia games, we're all kind of nerd. So that was that was fun. And also just watching movies. I love watching movies. And my parents don't really as much, but kind of they've we've spent time together like watching movies and talking about them. And that's been really cool. And getting to like, just talk to them about that is is nice.

Parker Beverly 10:47

So yeah, awesome. So if you do not have anything else that you would like to share, I think those are all the questions I have for you.

Sloane Larsen 10:55

Yeah.

Parker Beverly 10:56

Well, thank you so much for your time.

Sloane Larsen 10:58

I appreciate it. Yeah.

Parker Beverly 10:59

Thank you so much.