

### CAMPUS SUPPORT CENTER COMMUNIQUÉ

March 17, 2020

To: All SEC Team Members and Students

From: Mitchell Fuerst, President

Subject: Alternate Delivery of Classes Online and Additional Information Information for Team Members and Students:

Here at the College, we are committed to finding meaningful ways to serve each and every Student during our alternate delivery period of online learning. I know we will move forward and we will navigate these challenging times.

We continue to monitor all recommendations of our local, state, and national public health agencies, as well as engage in dialogue with other colleges across the state and nation.

## Besides the health and safety of our College community, our priority is to continue our Students in their programs of study using alternate delivery methods.

Our Students and Team Members have responded to these challenging times with remarkable courage and compassion, reflecting the fundamental values that have guided our College for more than five decades. We must not forget to stay grounded and keep looking out for one another during this time. The only way to get through this situation is together. I am very grateful for the strength and solidarity of everyone in our College community. Again, the health and wellness of our community is my first priority.

As of now, we are hopeful we can resume normal campus operations on April 6th. This is the same date many schools and colleges are publishing as of today.

We want you to know we are totally focused on continuing our student's education, so that they are matriculating towards graduation. As we have previously shared, graduation dates may be affected and we will share updates as we know more.





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In keeping with our commitment to transparency and consistent communication, please see below for the most recent updates regarding our alternate delivery of classes and other information.

Once again, we will sending you updates via email (with reminders by text), so please check the email you provided the College daily. If you have changed your email or cell number, please contact your Campus Director ASAP.

#### **Alternate Delivery Learning Update**

As you know, we are transitioning all of our classes at all campuses online using a combination of video conferencing and Moodle, which is our Learning Management System (LMS).

Video conferencing will allow our Students to use video to see their Instructor/Professor, as well as classmates. You can use video conferencing on your phone, tablet, computer, or laptop. If you don't have a web enabled device, please ask a family member or relative to borrow theirs for this period. If you absolutely cannot gain access to a device, please contact your Campus Director, as we have options for some of our Students.

Moodle is a secure learning environment where you will find lesson plans, PowerPoints, and the actual content of the class.

Students should expect a similar workload to your in-person classes, including attending class virtually via video conferencing along with time for reading/watching/listening/practicing, engaging with peers via discussion boards and documents, and homework.

Please remember that logging on to both video conferencing and Moodle is how the College will count your attendance.

This week, all Students should be totally focused on completing the <u>Orientation to Online</u> <u>Learning</u> course. You must complete this course this week, as this is your attendance for the week. If you do not know how to log in to this Moodle course, please contact your Campus Director ASAP.





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This week, the College is holding academies for all of our Instructors/Professors on the use of these online tools. Next week, you will resume your classes online.

Our intention is to replicate as closely as possible the elements of our College's in-class experience and our campus culture, including close attention to individual learning with support from faculty and other Team Members on campus. However, there will be bumps in the road and we ask for your patience and confidence in our Instructors/Professors.

Even within the online environment, College rules as outlined in the latest College Catalog—including attendance, tardies, respect, etc.—continue to apply during the school day. Students and the families of Students should be conscious of the environment and maintain appropriate student conduct and attire, especially while on video conferences.

In addition, I strongly encourage all Students and Team Members to support our efforts to curtail the spread of COVID-19 during this time by practicing the social distancing measures recommended by the CDC and other public health agencies. We recognize this may be challenging for the tightly knit members of our community, yet we must all do our part for the greater good.

In challenging times like these, it's important to keep sight of the love and unity in our College's community. As we are celebrating our 53rd year of Educating Students for Success, we have been reflecting on our past, and the word that comes up most often is gratitude. I am so thankful to be a part of a community that comes together every day to help change the lives of our Students.

#### **Managing Anxiety and Preventing Bias**

With COVID-19 updates saturating the media, it's understandable that Students may be anxious and concerned. We need to speak calmly and honestly with each other about this topic. It is important to remind ourselves that experts say that COVID-19 does not pose a big risk to younger adults, and that there are simple ways to protect yourself from exposure.

We also ask for your help in reminding ourselves that, while it is normal to experience some anxiety, this is a time for our College community to come together. We should resist being guided by rumor and fear. When infectious diseases are associated with specific countries or









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nationalities, people are more prone to bias and discrimination. No one should be ostracized or stigmatized because of their national or ethnic origin.

Continue to treat each other with kindness and compassion. As a College community, we must remain committed to supporting one another, regardless of whether we come together on campus on a daily basis.

Yes, these are extraordinary times. But we're an extraordinary community, not defined by a physical campus. And I have no doubt we will weather the days and weeks ahead with courage and compassion for one another. At our College, "We Will Always Take Care of the Student," and I'm confident that one day we will look back on this moment with pride over how we all got though this together.





