



ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

EC Community Update
May 20, 2020

Dear EC Community,

Regions in New York, including the Southern Tier, have been given approval to begin a phased reopening. Phase 1 began on May 15 for our region. Education is included with Phase 4 and, provided the region continues to meet the Governor's reopening benchmarks, we anticipate a full reopening of College offices on June 29. In preparation of reopening, all businesses are required to prepare a Reopening Plan utilizing safety guidelines set by the State. Senior officers are working on these plans with their departments and I anticipate being able to share details by soon.

Fall 2020 Term I

There are still many questions surrounding whether colleges and universities will be able to reopen this fall while meeting standards for social distancing, screening, and testing. **We remain cautiously optimistic that students will return to campus this fall.** Senior officers are working to make an informed, well thought-out plan that ensures the safety of our students and employees and provides a robust educational experience.

Commencement

For our graduating students, congratulations on the hard work you have put into your degree - you are almost there! The Board of Trustees will officially confer your degrees prior to May 31. We invite you to take a moment at 11:00 a.m. on May 31, and join President and Mrs. Lindsay to mark that achievement. To get things started, visit the [Commencement page on elmira.edu](#) to download graphics to help you celebrate this momentous occasion! Watch your email and the EC social media channels for additional information.

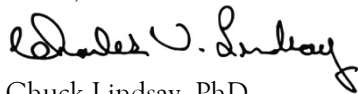
Budget Update

Elmira College will need to make adjustments to our expenditures this year in order to continue to be a healthy institution. Even before the pandemic, it was clear that EC needed to make changes and restructure in order to adapt to the changing higher education landscape. Small, private colleges across the country are particularly susceptible to this reality. While we are not as fragile as many institutions, it is necessary for us to approve a budget for 2020-2021 that ensures we do not make ourselves vulnerable. We were fortunate enough to receive federal emergency funds this spring; we now must adjust our expense budget so that it reflects coronavirus-related safety protocols and a lower fall enrollment. Unfortunately, in addition to a tighter operating budget, this will mean cuts in multiple areas of the College. We have conducted a thorough review of all academic and non-academic programs and I anticipate that the Board of Trustees will give final approval to a 2020-2021 budget by the end of this month. Our focus, as always, is on providing an excellent educational experience to our students.

Students, it is important to note that budget cuts will not affect your scholarship award. Your financial aid packages for 2020-2021 may be viewed on [MyEC](#) right now if your documentation is complete. You can also view your Financial Aid Document Tracking to ensure all necessary documentation is received. If you have any questions regarding financial aid, please contact the Office of Financial Aid at (607) 735-1728 to speak with either Lorraine or Penny. You can also email them at finaid@elmira.edu.

These are challenging times for everyone and I remain extremely grateful for how everyone has rallied to support one another. Students and employees are what make EC a wonderful place to study and work. As we wrap-up EC Spirit Week on Thursday and Friday, I encourage you to take time to celebrate each other and your hard work.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chuck Lindsay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "C".

Chuck Lindsay, PhD
President