

EC Community Update May 27, 2020

Dear EC Community,

As the Southern Tier region prepares to reopen businesses in Phase 2 (including administrative support) on Friday, May 29, we are looking to bring some employees back to campus beginning Monday, June 1. Senior officers are working with Wendy Fiscus, Clarke Health Center director, to ensure we are meeting local health guidelines. Supervisors will be in touch with their staffs and I hope to share additional information in the next day or two. We anticipate a full reopening of college offices on June 29.

CARES Act Reminder

Students, a reminder that funding from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund portion of the CARES Act is available to support emergency aid for students. Eligible expenses include food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, child care, and other similar expenses **that are specifically due to the disruption of campus operations for the coronavirus pandemic**. To be considered for funding, please review the criteria in the <u>application on MyEC</u> and return the completed application to <u>caresactaid@elmira.edu</u>.

Counseling Services

Given the continuing coronavirus situation and the related stress students may experience, free counseling services for students will continue throughout the summer months. Students are encouraged to reach out to Dr. Kevin Murphy, associate dean of students, at <u>kmurphy@elmira.edu</u> or Katie Basu, director of counseling, at <u>cbasu@elmira.edu</u>. For Employees, the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) through Clinical Associates of the Southern Tier is offering telehealth appointments. These appointments are available to all benefit-eligible employees and their dependents. To schedule an appointment, either in person or via telehealth, call 607-936-1771, email <u>clinicalassoc@gmail.com</u>, or visit their website at <u>www.clinicalassociates.org</u> to complete an intake request form.

Fall Term I

We continue to be 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. This includes student housing arrangements that follow local health recommendations. Current graduate assistants who have another year will remain in their current houses to allow for appropriate social distancing within campus housing.

Commencement

A reminder to all graduating students to join Janna and me at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 31, for a <u>Facebook Live</u> to mark your achievements as you prepare to join the ranks of EC alumni. We will raise the class banner, ring the bells, and toast to your hard work and accomplishments. We are still tentatively planning an in-person Commencement event in early- to mid-August 2020, and details will be posted on our <u>Commencement page</u> as confirmed. In the meantime, share your celebrations using #Elmira2020 and the provided EC graphics and images, and we look forward to celebrating you on Sunday.

Yours, Doles . Solar

Chuck Lindsay, PhD President