

EC Community Update July 8, 2020

Dear EC Community,

I hope this email finds you well and enjoying your summer. On campus we continue to plan and prepare for the Fall Term and safely welcoming all employees and students back in August.

Since my last email, Governor Cuomo has added states to the travel advisory. Any individuals traveling to New York from these states will be expected to self-quarantine for 14 days. Click here for a list of states meeting the criteria for required quarantine. Please keep this information in mind as you plan summer travel and your return to campus.

We are updating our Soaring Forward Reopening plan and will post updates to the <u>Soaring Forward</u> <u>web page</u>. I encourage you to check it often as we will continue to update the information to meet state and local guidelines.

Related to continuing coronavirus-related restrictions, we have made the difficult decision to not hold a summer 2020 Commencement. While the COVID-19 numbers in New York's Southern Tier are still very low, there continues to be much uncertainty related to a potential second wave (if and when), the ever-changing New York State travel restrictions, and continued limitations on the number of people allowed at gatherings. We hope to invite the Class of 2020 to participate in Commencement 2021, provided we are able to host an in-person event of that size next spring. Registrar Mike Halperin shared this news with graduating students via email earlier today.

As we head towards a new academic year, we are excited to welcome members of the Class of 2024 and select family members to campus next week for Summer Orientation. In response to current health guidelines, we are hosting several one-day sessions for smaller groups rather than a session that involves an overnight stay. In-person sessions are scheduled for July 13, 14, 15, 17, 20 and 22.

To help welcome the Class of 2024 to the EC family, we will celebrate EC Spirit Day on Friday, July 17. I encourage you to wear your purple, gold, and/or EC themed clothing whether you are on campus or celebrating virtually. Share your Elmira pride by posting your selfies on social media using one of the

following hashtags and tagging the main EC account (@ElmiraCollege): #ElmiraProud #FightOn4EC #OneElmira

I continue to be gratified by the way our EC community has rallied to support each other and grateful to everyone's hard work, resourcefulness, and determination as we plan for the fall and the safety of our campus and our community.

Sincerely,

Chuck Lindsay, PhD

President