



ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 3, 2020

Dear EC Community,

The Fall Term is officially underway, and while this is a learning experience for all of us, I am pleased to report that the Term has started relatively smoothly. We are putting the finishing touches on classroom technologies and will certainly need to make adjustments in the coming weeks. I appreciate everyone's patience and support as we work through this experience together.

A few reminders for everyone:

- **All students and employees** should complete the Elmira College Wellness Pledge. This includes reviewing a PowerPoint with information about the virus, symptoms, best practices recommended by health and/or government authorities, and an acknowledgement that you have read and understand expectations for protecting your own health as well as the health of other members of the campus community. [The PowerPoint is available on MyEC.](#)
- **All students AND employees** must complete a daily COVID-19 self-screening. PC users will receive a reminder when they log onto the EC network; Mac users will need to set a reminder. The [online form is available on the homepage of MyEC.](#)
- Face coverings are required, per New York State guidelines, in any common areas where physical distancing is not possible. This includes classrooms.

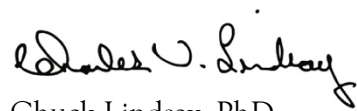
For our students who are joining us from states other than New York, I encourage you to keep an eye on [Governor Cuomo's updates and directives](#) - these may be very different than the expectations in your home state. In particular, if you visit a [local store, restaurant, or bar, New York requires](#) face coverings in these locations. For restaurants, face coverings must be worn any time a patron is not seated at their table. Many area businesses have needed to adjust their operating hours, so be sure to check their Facebook page or call for updates.

We expect to launch a public dashboard on our [Soaring Forward web page](#) within the coming week where we will post information related to the number of tests, positive cases (if any), and recoveries. As a reminder, the Chemung County Health Department will initiate any contact tracing that may be needed and notify anyone who has come into close contact with an infected person and advise her/him on the appropriate health and safety protocols.

Our focus is on the health and safety of our campus community, as well as the wider Elmira community, which many faculty and staff call home. It is imperative that everyone do their part to follow the [Guidelines](#) - not only for the health and safety of your friends and co-workers, but also to help ensure that we can maintain in-person classes this Term.

The College was recently ranked [#21 out of 248 institutions by Washington Monthly](#), in part, for our contribution to the public good. This academic year is an opportunity to exemplify that accolade and do what we can to help each other and our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chuck Lindsay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot above the 'i' in Lindsay.

Chuck Lindsay, PhD
President