



ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 3, 2020

Dear EC Employees,

As we continue to monitor the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the US, it has become apparent that the uncertainty of the next few weeks, and even months, will require us to make several adjustments as we near the end of the academic year.

At this time, we are still operating under Governor Cuomo's executive orders, which have been [extended until April 15](#), directing in-person workforce restrictions. We will continue to update you as we learn of any changes.

To maintain the safety and wellbeing of our students and employees, we will continue with **online classes only for Term III**. I know this is a disappointment for many students, especially our seniors, who will not have the opportunity to fully experience the traditions and special memories of Term III, and while it's not the same, we are working to see what activities can be moved to an online/virtual format.

Since students will not be returning to campus for Term III, the Office of Residence Life has developed a process to conduct an end-of-year move out for resident students. We are consulting with the Clarke Health Center staff and the Chemung County Health Department to ensure the plan aligns with the latest safety precautions and minimizes exposure. Students will receive the move-out plan information in an email from Residence Life later today.

Given the continued spread of the virus, related travel restrictions, restrictions on gatherings, and stay-at-home orders in place in various states, Commencement 2020 will happen in an alternative format. While our ceremony is still several weeks away, we have reached a point where the decision needs to be made to allow employees and students time to adjust their plans and arrangements. All students eligible to participate in Commencement 2020 will receive an email survey asking their opinion on two alternative format options. Additional information on Commencement plans will be shared once we tabulate the survey results.

I shared these updates with our students during a 1:00 p.m. Facebook Live event; a follow-up email will go out to the full Elmira College community immediately after.

I remain grateful for everyone's hard work, resourcefulness, and determination as we maneuver through these unprecedented times. I hope you and your families are well.

Sincerely,
Chuck Lindsay
President

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