ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 30, 2020

Dear EC Community,

As the number of coronavirus cases increase on campus, I wanted to assure the campus community that the health and safety of the EC community remains our top priority. To do this, it is imperative that we all work together.

Residential students – we strongly encourage you to stay on campus to help reduce the spread. There has been a spike in cases in the surrounding area and remaining on campus helps keep our campus community safe and helps prevent spread to the local community. In addition, we don't want you to unknowingly take it home to your family or hometown community.

Commuter students – continue your classes virtually and do not come to campus. Again, reducing visits to campus helps limit the spread of the virus.

Employees – those who can work from home should continue to do so. Visits to campus should be limited to essential tasks that cannot be completed at home. Meetings should be occurring virtually.

In partnership with Cayuga Medical Center, we will launch COVID-19 testing **on Thursday, October 1**, for those students and employees currently on campus and not currently in isolation. **Students and affected employees will receive an email later today with a link to register for a testing time.** It is imperative that everyone <u>currently on campus</u>, and not in isolation, register and complete the testing.

The cost of this test is covered by the College, if not covered by your current insurance.

Students - specific details regarding online registration for the test and other logistics for Residential Students will be sent by the Office of Residence Life. Commuter students and students currently at home do not need to, and should not, come to campus for the test.

Employees - if you are expected to complete tomorrow's testing, you will receive an email from your Vice President with the registration details.

Students and employees should use their Elmira College address on the registration form: Elmira College, 1 Park Place, Elmira, NY 14901.

Each individual tested will have access to a dashboard with their information and test results. Test results should be available within 24 hours.
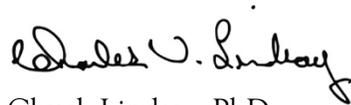
Once this initial round of testing is complete, we will implement testing of random samplings for the campus community throughout the remainder of the academic year.

This initial round of testing, combined with on-going random sampling, will give us a better picture of how the virus is affecting our campus community and enable us to act proactively should we see another fluctuation. While we had anticipated having our own equipment to do testing earlier this month, demand on supplies has pushed the arrival of that equipment to October. We are pleased that Cayuga Medical Center, who is working with Rheonix Labs in Ithaca, was able to step in and complete the tests now.

We will continue to update the [FAQ's for Students and Families](#) on MyEC as additional information is confirmed. Additionally, questions may be submitted to covid19@elmira.edu.

I continue to be grateful to everyone's hard work, resourcefulness, and determination as we work to ensure the safety of our campus and our community.

Sincerely,

Charles V. Lindsay

Chuck Lindsay, PhD
President