



ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 25, 2020

Dear EC Community,

The spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to evolve quickly in Chemung County and the Elmira area, with new cases confirmed daily.

In late August, [Governor Cuomo announced](#) that “if colleges have 100 cases or if the number of cases equal 5 percent of their population or more, they must go to remote learning for two weeks.” While we are currently below that 5 percent threshold, given the recent rise of positive cases in our region, we are taking the **proactive step to temporarily move classes online for two weeks beginning Monday, September 28.**

Starting Monday, September 28 for students:

- **Students will remain on campus and take classes virtually.** There will be NO face-to-face instruction via lectures, seminars or any other similar classroom setting for two weeks. Students should check their email for specific information from their professors. Students who are currently engaged in clinical, internship, or student teaching placements should check with the head of their academic program.
- Students will receive an update email from the Office of Residence Life later today.
- All campus services remain open and accessible to residential and commuter students except Speidel Gymnasium and the fitness center.
- Virtual campus life events and activities will continue as planned.
- **This is not a quarantine.** Students, who are not in isolation or quarantine due to a positive test or exposure, are free to be outside and around campus. **We strongly encourage you to remain on campus.** The surrounding communities are seeing an uptick in positive cases and we encourage students to limit off-campus trips.

Starting Monday, September 28 for employees:

- Non-essential employees who can work from home for the next two weeks, should plan to do so. Essential employees include those within Campus Safety, Buildings & Grounds, the EC Post Office, the Clarke Health Center, Residence Life, and some within Finance and Administration. If you are unsure how this affects you, please contact your direct supervisor.

- Directions for temporarily transferring office lines to a cell phone and checking voicemail remotely are available in the [Academic & Business Continuity Plan on the website](#).
- All meetings should occur virtually.

Again, **this temporary move is a precautionary step** to help reduce the possibility of exposure for our students and employees over the next two weeks. We will continue to monitor and evaluate the regional situation and email updates to students and employees.

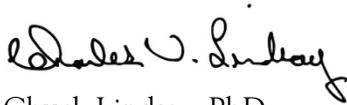
As a reminder, do not call or email the Clarke Health Center unless you are exhibiting coronavirus symptoms. CHC staff is focused on assisting the Chemung County Health Department and those who may need medical attention.

Students who need to isolate or quarantine will receive information with the expectations and available resources. Residential students will isolate/quarantine in Anderson Hall. Commuter students should isolate/quarantine at home. Full details on isolation and quarantine measures for students can be found in the [Reopening Guidelines](#), beginning on page 10. These guidelines are updated as the situation changes, so be sure to check the document often.

The Arnot Health toll-free helpline is also available to students and employees, seven days a week, from 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. at 1-800-952-2662. Nurses and Medical Providers are available to assess your level of risk and help you determine whether to self-quarantine or, if medically indicated, seek care at an appropriate location.

I understand the disruption to normal routines, schedules and activities, and am grateful for everyone's patience, resourcefulness, and determination to help ensure the safety of our campus and our community.

Sincerely,



Chuck Lindsay, PhD
President