

ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF CAMPUS LIFE

October 8, 2021

Dear Students,

This is a follow up to my last email regarding the updated COVID-19 Student Guidelines and Sanctions Guide, as well as some other topics of interest. Thank you all for your cooperation with the updated guidelines. For those who have contacted me with questions or feedback, I sincerely appreciate hearing from you. That feedback included the desire for regular communication with the student body so that you are kept informed with what is happening, so I will do so.

I am continually monitoring the progress we are making on-campus with the vaccine mandate compliance, as well as the number of positive cases in the surrounding community, and I will be reviewing the guidelines over break. At this time, the student body is approximately 96% in compliance with the vaccine mandate, which is excellent. Today is the deadline for compliance, and we are still waiting to hear from several students as to their plan for meeting the mandate.

Governor Hochul has extended the activation period for the Hero Act until October 31, so masks will continue to be required in all campus buildings at least until that date, https://www.health.ny.gov/press/releases/2021/docs/hero_act_designation_extension_1.pdf.

For those of you who spoke with me during my visits to the residence hall and commuter lounge for "Pizza with the Veep," thanks for sharing your feedback and recommendations for improvements at EC. I have listed, sorted, and prioritized your comments, sent the list to each respective department head, shared the list with senior administration, and I am now checking things off as we are making positive progress in meeting your suggestions.

Here are some updates that might interest you:

- We are increasing the staff in Buildings and Grounds to improve housekeeping and landscaping on campus, including hiring a Supervisor of Housekeeping who begins his position next week.
- Towers parking lot has been repaired, with more permanent improvements coming in the Spring. Landscaping improvements around Towers have also begun.
- The part to repair the air conditioning in the Campus Center has been received and will be repaired well in time for the return of warm weather.
- I have created a new position, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion/Title IX Coordinator, and it will be advertised immediately and filled within the next several weeks.

- The Retention Team has recruited two student representatives to serve on this committee to be a voice for the student body regarding strategies to increase student persistence at EC. Thank you to Amayia Giscombe '23 and Eliza Beaudin '22 for agreeing to serve on this committee.
- I have reviewed your survey responses regarding Mountain Day with President Lindsay, and we will plan to implement changes to help improve student engagement during this tradition.
- Thanks to the class gift from the Visionary Class of 2020, two new pool tables have been ordered for MacKenzies (purple felt, of course).

That is probably enough for now. Thanks for reading, and I encourage you to continue to contact me when you have questions or feedback regarding your student experience at EC. Stop by my office in the Campus Life suite on the first floor of the Campus Center, or send an email to me at elambert@elmira.edu.

Have a safe, restful break,

Liz

Dr. Elizabeth A. Lambert
Vice President of Campus Life
Dean of Students