

ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF CAMPUS LIFE

April 7, 2021

Dear Students,

I loved walking around the campus on Easter Sunday and seeing many of you relaxing outside with your friends. Some of you were in groups, some of you were solo, but I heard music, saw some lawn games, and I was impressed by how many of you were following our guidelines for gathering safely. Thank you! We are so pleased and relieved that COVID-19 positive cases continue to drop in our community. As a matter of fact, Chemung County is among the lowest number of cases for counties reporting in New York State, and our expectation is that most students will return to campus for **in-person learning for Term III**, which begins on April 26, 2021.

This email is to share important information pertaining to Term III that you will want to take a few moments to read carefully.

- The warmer weather will permit us to enjoy the outdoors on a regular basis. Please still remember to wear your face covering if you are gathered with others, and particularly if there is not 6 feet of distance between you. If you are eating, spread out as much as possible in groups of no more than four, since your face coverings will be removed. All groups should remain relatively small, no more than 10-12 people with face coverings. You are only exempt from wearing a face covering on campus if you are inside your residence hall room (preferably with only your roommates), sitting 6 feet apart from others, or eating.
- We are in the process of developing the structure for Term III softball. We will be holding the tournament upholding social distancing guidelines. Face coverings must be worn, and team size must remain under 12.
- Pack your bagged lawn chairs for Term III, as many classes may meet outdoors, weather permitting. These chairs are also great for sitting with your friends outdoors (see bullet one above).
- There will be a Welcome Back BBQ on Sunday, April 25 from 5-7 p.m. We are excited to start off Term III with a fun celebration, including give-a-ways and prizes.
- Some changes will be made to our COVID-19 Guidelines for Term III. The first is a revision to our policy of no guests on campus; beginning April 26, this is being changed to **no guests in the residence halls**. Current residential students may continue to visit each other during established visiting hours. In addition, **visiting hours in the residence halls** (limited to only those students living on campus) will be extended to include the weekends, with hours expanding to 5 p.m. - 10 p.m., 7 days a week.
- Another change to our COVID-19 Guidelines for Term III is the removal of the requirement that students must remain on campus for the entire term. For Term III, **students will be permitted to spend the night or weekend off campus** so that you can go home when necessary. We do encourage you to limit your travel, however, to continue to keep our campus community healthy.

- As the COVID-19 vaccine has become more readily available, **we highly encourage all students to get vaccinated**. There are many sites locally where you can schedule an appointment within a few days to receive one of the three approved vaccines (Arnot Health and Chemung County are regularly posting clinic information). We are currently working with local hospitals to bring vaccination clinics on or close to campus, and we will share more information soon. The more our community members get vaccinated, the safer our campus will be. However, even if you are fully vaccinated, please continue to follow our COVID-19 Guidelines, and it is also requested that you upload a copy of your vaccination card to the [Student Health Portal](#).
- Another exciting news item to share is that Dr. Kevin Murphy will be one of our contracted counselors for Term III. Many of you have worked with Dr. Murphy in the past, and we are so happy to have him counseling our students once again. If you would like to schedule an appointment with Dr. Murphy or any of the other counselors during Term III, please contact the Clarke Health Center.
- Only international students and those who can provide a written recommendation from a medical professional will be approved for remote learning for Term III. There are other critical family and unique situations where approval may be possible; those are being decided on a case-by-case basis. **There is a process to apply for remote learning**, and the deadline for submitting a request for Term III is **Wednesday, April 21, 2021**. NO REQUESTS will be accepted after this date. Approvals are not automatic or guaranteed. If you feel that you have a situation that requires you to learn remotely for Term III, please reply to this email. The final list of students approved for Term III remote learning will be shared with faculty, and they are aware that only students on the list are permitted to attend remotely.

I would be remiss if I did not remind everyone that our COVID-19 Sanction Guide was also still in place and continues to be enforced. It has been a challenging year for everyone on our campus, and I genuinely look forward to an engaging and “more normal” Spring Term III. Please let me know if you have any questions. I’m happy to assist.

My best to you,
Liz

Dr. Elizabeth A. Lambert
Vice President of Enrollment Management & Campus Life