

Office of the President

April 2, 2021

Daemen College Students, Faculty and Staff

Dear Daemen Campus Community Members:

Two weeks ago I sent a letter to campus saying that a number of public health officials are warning that the United States may experience a major surge of COVID-19 within the next weeks, and I urged each and every one of you to exercise extreme caution.

That prediction is coming true. Erie County is experiencing a large spike in COVID-19 cases, and its risk level is rated as "very high." In the last two weeks, cases have risen 81% and deaths are up 86%.

Daemen is continuing to keep our positivity rate very low, thanks to your efforts, but the spike in Erie County is just beginning. Please do not take any unnecessary risks with your own health and that of others: wear a mask indoors and outside; practice social distancing; and avoid groups of people.

There are only six weeks of classes left. If a surge occurs on campus, we may have to go fully remote again. No one wants that.

We have made it this far; let's go all the way. We are strong because of our continued commitment together, and I am convinced that by continuing to stay vigilant, our success will continue. Please respect to protect.

Cordially. Lary A. Olson

Gary A. Olson President