



Student Affairs

March 11, 2020

To: Students

From: Greg Naylor, Ph.D., Vice President for Strategic Initiatives

Subject: Follow up on Daemen's Announcement

Dear Students:

Hopefully by now, you have read the announcement that came out from the Office of the President regarding resuming of classes as scheduled for this Monday. We have heard from people on both sides- those who are happy and those who are not.

I just want all students to know that we are dealing with a situation that is unprecedented and we are not sitting back passively. We are looking at this from all sides, trying to ensure that we are doing the right thing. At the heart of that decision is always the well-being of our campus community. The CDC continually notes that the threat of harm to most people is minimal with the risk being for those who have compromised immune systems. This is important information to note.

Moving everything online is a big decision with significant ramifications for the campus that a plan is being put in place for so the College can switch gears quickly, if needed.

We already have several hundred people still living on campus, many with nowhere to go. I want to reassure students that we are not going to send people away, even if at a later date a decision is made to change how courses are delivered. Housing and dining, in some fashion, as well as other support services would have to continue.

I share all of this to try to reassure all students that we are working very diligently to manage this situation, stay abreast of what is happening, and make decisions with good information that are the best for everyone. We will also continue to take precautions with quarantines and other preventative measures to help stop the spread of illness based on the information we receive.

Again, this is very fluid and as things change and develop, the College will adjust. Please know that we will do so without making "knee-jerk" decisions per se, but with thoughtful consideration.

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Finally, please know that I share your fears and concerns; we all do. At the same time, we need to not panic as a community. I hope that at the very least, knowing that if things changes, students will not be turned away is of some comfort in all of this. We will continue to stay in touch, monitor closely, and plan.

My best wishes to all.

Dr. Naylor