

Dear MCU Parents and Families,

With the Sunday morning news reports, we're learning the coronavirus continues to accelerate in the United States. We know it's highly contagious, and people can be contagious even if they have no symptoms. The President has declared a national emergency—not a small issue. While this is not a time to panic, it is a time to be vigilant and take necessary precautions to protect ourselves against the spread of the virus. In response, we are instituting the following measures:

**MCU will close its oceanview campus, effective March 16 for at least two weeks, but until further notice. Students may access staff and faculty by email or phone. Email is preferred to provide a record of the contact.** We are simply trying to limit interaction with others and observe the practice of social distancing. I want to reiterate that we are being cautious, but we are not in a dangerous situation.

**Classes are now online in My.Marymount. No classroom instruction will be offered.** We have posted signs on doors for students who may arrive on campus in the morning without checking their messages. Cabinet will be conferring over the next two weeks to determine whether we will extend the online modality for a longer period of time. We are staying in touch with federal, state and county health agencies and our peer institutions.

**The Villas will stay open for our students in residence, and we will serve three meals a day for those who remain.** The Villas are currently at about a third of capacity.

Additional points:

- We are working with our Resident Advisors and staff on scheduling to provide supervision and support for students. RAs will be on duty but without regular office hours.
- Athletics has cancelled practices and competitions.
- Students with internships and student workers should stay home. We will work with our host employers to determine if any work can be accomplished remotely.
- We will reduce, and likely eliminate, shuttle service between the Villas and campus for now.
- We will be using video and web conferencing to meet, along with regular email and phone.
- Should staff or faculty come to campus for short periods of time, they will be at their desks and not congregating with each other and not seeing students directly.
- We will have security at both campus locations as our onsite personnel decreases.

We will be circulating additional information tomorrow as the day progresses. Thank you for your continued support and patronage.

Sincerely,

