Dear MCU Parents and Families,

I wanted to reach out to you directly and reassure you of the steps we’re taking to protect our students’ health as the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak continues to evolve rapidly. Many of you are far away from your student, and I know that can be unnerving and you may feel overly removed from what is happening here on campus.

We’re monitoring the situation closely, convening our emergency operations team daily and following the advice from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. We have increased our cleaning and sterilization procedures for common spaces, door handles and surfaces. We created a dedicated web page that is updated when we have important news to share and will continue to communicate with constituents as events change.

While there are no cases of the virus here at Marymount—and we believe the risk to our students, faculty, and staff to be low—it is our responsibility to be proactive in our efforts to encourage social distancing as a means of preventing the spread of illness.

At the same time, we are committed to sustaining our educational mission and the work we do as best we can. As a result, we are taking the following actions:

- All Marymount classes will move online, effective March 16-March 29, 2020, and will be reviewed weekly for possible extension.
- The MCU campus and the Villas will remain open, with normal campus services available. We will now be serving breakfast, lunch and dinner at the Villas.
- Many university-sponsored events have been cancelled or postponed, including all athletic practices and games.
- All international university-related, non-essential travel for students, faculty and staff is suspended until further notice.

As a smaller university, it is much easier for us to take the necessary precautions to keep students, faculty and staff safe and healthy. For the most current updates and resources, we encourage you to check the MCU website often. If you’d like to update your contact information and receive our regular communications, please email Dr. Ryan Alcantara, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students, at RAlcantara@MarymountCalifornia.edu.

Thank you for your patience and support as we navigate this uncharted territory. I appreciate the many people who have responded in a spirit of understanding and partnership. I assure you your student’s well-being is our absolute highest priority.

Best,
Brian Marcotte
President