

March 13, 2020

Message to the community from Heather Zdancewicz, vice president for business and finance

We are all experiencing a great deal of uncertainty as the evolving coronavirus continues to spread. Thank you to everyone in the community for your agility as we navigate these times. Austin Seminary continues to closely monitor the developments regarding COVID-19. Today, Friday, March 13, the Seminary cancelled all classes and gave staff the time to consider how to operate remotely. What follows are decisions that have been made regarding the near future, knowing that we will again make additional decisions effecting our shared life after the weekend.

All Campus Events Cancelled from March 13 through March 22

Out of an abundance of caution, campus events from March 13 through March 22 will be cancelled. This includes Seminary-sponsored meetings, and outside visitors using campus space. We will continue to evaluate the situation and extend the cancellation period further, if needed.

Library services

Until further notice, the library (McMillan, lower level) is **closed** to the public. To support teaching and learning, the library staff has purchased e-copies, when available, of all books on spring semester syllabi listed as required or recommended. Enrolled students and faculty continue to have access to online tools (e.g., the Atla database). Librarians will respond to email questions as usual.

Employee offices

All staff and faculty will work remotely to the maximum extent possible during the period March 13 – March 22.

Mail Delivery

Mail will be delivered to student mailboxes as normal. All office mail will remain in the main mail room in departmental boxes, rather than delivered to offices. Most departments have a designated individual who can access the mailboxes.

Gym

The gym in the lower level of McMillan is closed during the period March 13 – March 22 due to the lack of ventilation and ability to adequately sanitize the space.

Beyond March 22

The President's cabinet is meeting on a daily basis to assess the Seminary's plans and are ready to make additional decisions regarding the weeks ahead early next week. Please check back regularly for updates.