

COVID-19 Update

From the Office of the President

APRIL 1, 2020

Dear Members of the Aquinas Community,

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, the Board of Trustees and Administration of Aquinas Institute of Theology are carefully reviewing all available information in order to determine the appropriate actions needed to ensure the safety of the Aquinas community and to comply with city, state, and federal orders and guidelines.

As of today, there are no known members of our community who have tested positive for the coronavirus. As we approach Palm Sunday and the Passion of Our Lord, we are united in prayer for the Aquinas and St. Louis communities and our brothers and sisters the world over.

Yours in Christ and St. Dominic,
Fr. Mark E. Wedig, OP

Listed below are important announcements pertaining to the remainder of the Spring 2020 semester

COURSEWORK DELIVERY

- Distance education will continue for all classes through the end of the Spring semester on May 8, 2020.
- Online or videoconferencing will be used for final exams, MA comps, and thesis presentations. All students will receive specific details by Monday, April 6th.

Questions or Information: Erin Hammond at registrar@ai.edu

COMMENCEMENT

- With regret, we announce that the Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies scheduled for Friday, May 8th are cancelled.
- On May 8th, we will celebrate the 2019-2020 Commencement in a virtual ceremony where Board Chair, Mr. David Wenzel, Aquinas President, Fr. Mark E. Wedig, OP, and Dean, Fr. Michael Mascari, OP will officially confer degrees and certificates. Invitation and details to follow.

Questions or Information: Mary Urbanek-Mueller at urbanek@ai.edu

UPDATE ON REMOTE WORKING ENVIRONMENT AND BUILDING ACCESS

- Faculty and staff will continue to work remotely through the end of the semester.
- Between now and the end of the semester, the building will have restricted access to faculty and staff only.

Questions or Information: Brother John Steilberg, OP at steilberg@ai.edu

OTHER NEWS

- An update on the Summer 2020 semester will be sent on May 1st.
- Starting this week, Aquinas Institute will send pastoral reflections and resources that might be helpful to our community during this unprecedented and uncertain time.
- The May meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held by videoconferencing on Saturday, May 9th.
- We anticipate the main-floor renovation project will begin in the near future.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. ROMANS 8:38-39