

COVID-19 INSTITUTIONAL UPDATE

March 10, 2020

The University is monitoring the current situation as it continues to unfold. We understand that many of our community members are anxious, and we are committed to provide you with information that will be helpful to you. All institutional updates can be found on the Misericordia University website www.misericordia.edu. This is a good site for parents to access for current information.

Today's update includes information on travel, events/activities, and reporting a COVID-19 person under investigation (PUI) or diagnosis.

Travel

- We are expanding our request to register travel. We are now asking that all members of our community who have traveled or plan on traveling via air (domestic or internationally) between March 1 and March 31 to send an email to anarcum@misericordia.edu. Included in the email should be your name, stopover and transfer airport locations, destination, and dates of travel. Many of you have already done this, and we thank you for your cooperation.
- All travel to CDC level 3 areas is suspended until further notice.
- All non-essential University travel is strongly discouraged.
- All personal international travel is strongly discouraged.
- We strongly urge extreme caution and good judgement regarding personal domestic ground travel.

Events On and Off Campus

Events that are central to our mission and operations will be continued at this time. The following criteria will be used as a method to reduce exposure of our community.

- Events can continue as planned if the university's emergency protocols can be communicated to all attendees. These protocols include: asking those who travel from or work in an affected area with confirmed COVID-19 cases not to attend this event/program; asking persons who have traveled by air domestically or internationally to affected areas since March 1, 2020 not to attend this event/program; asking those who are ill and exhibiting *any* of the symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath) not to attend this event/program.
- Events that are publicized as open to the public that cannot meet the criteria above because the University is unable to determine who will be attending will be rescheduled or canceled.
- Use extreme caution and good judgement when attending an event off campus, especially if there is a large crowd.
- Student Engagement and Residence Life activities as well as athletic events are continuing as planned. If there are changes to any of these events, you will be notified through all available channels.

Report to University Health and Wellness Center

In an effort to have the most current information for our decision making, we are asking that any member of our community (faculty, staff, students, administration) who is either a person under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 OR has a diagnosis *immediately* contact the Director of the Health and Wellness Center, sfedero@misericordia.edu. All information will remain private and follow HIPAA standards.

OTHER INFORMATION

- The dining room and all Metz retail operations will continue with heightened cleaning and serving protocols.
- Academic classes are continuing as normal. Academic Affairs is currently working on a contingency plan **IF** classes have to be offered in an alternate method.

As always, we know the best way to reduce the risk of the spread of the virus to utilize the following guidelines:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Use hand sanitizer, it is available in all University buildings
- Stay home if you become sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Regularly wipe down surfaces with sanitizing wipes