

From: Vice President for Student Affairs <VP_StudentAffairs@csusb.edu>
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 9:33 AM
To: Students <students@groups.csusb.edu>
Cc: "colleagues@groups.csusb.edu" <colleagues@groups.csusb.edu>
Subject: Message to Students on COVID-19

Dear Coyote Students,

As we continue to track the emergence of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and move forward with plans for virtual course delivery for spring quarter to support “social distancing”, the health and well-being of our students remains a top priority.

Several steps are being taken to address student concerns and ensure continuity of provision of resources vital to our students. We are also working proactively to address student needs and concerns through multiple means, including regular consultation with our student leaders.

The information contained in this message is intended to offer guidance related to campus operations during the spring quarter.

If you have additional questions or concerns, you are strongly encouraged to attend a **Student Forum** that I will host in partnership with ASI, scheduled for this **Friday, March 13th from 2-3pm in the SMSU Fourplex**. The forum will be accessible via Zoom, and streamed live on all of ASI’s social media platforms for students who wish to participate remotely.

Maintaining a Culture of Respect & Inclusivity

At a time when so many in our campus community are experiencing feelings of fear and uncertainty, it is critical that we demonstrate our Coyote Spirit by supporting all members of our campus community. We must continue to maintain the spirit of respect, diversity, and inclusion that is a vital aspect of our campus culture. Targeting of any student population with xenophobic rhetoric has no place at CSUSB and will not be tolerated. Xenophobia is defined as prejudice against people from other countries. All of our students, international and domestic, contribute to the rich culture of our institution.

University Offices & Departments Will Remain Open

As you are already aware, we will delay the start of the spring quarter by one week and begin alternative instructional modalities on April 4th. Whether or not we return to face-to-face instruction during the spring quarter will be assessed in two-week intervals and weekly updates will be provided. During this time, CSUSB will remain open and professional staff will continue to be on campus during normal business hours. Accordingly, all university offices and departments will remain open and accessible to students, including The Obershaw DEN, The Den at PDC, and the Student Health Center. Any alteration to regular hours of operation will be communicated to students through email, social media, and signs posted at the respective office location.

***Please note:** In most campus operations, student assistant work hours are expected to continue unchanged, but please check with your supervisor.

On-Campus Residents

Students living in our residential community may return home while virtual course delivery is underway. However, the residential community will remain open and Department of Housing & Residential Education staff will remain on site. Dining services will continue to be available.

Visit the CSUSB Coronavirus Website for Reliable Information

We understand the desire for information at this time and the inclination to obtain and share information found on social media. However, we highly recommend that you check your sources and obtain information from reliable news outlets to avoid fueling fear by propagating misinformation. Reliable information and regular updates from the CSUSB administration can be found on CSUSB's COVID-19 website <https://www.csusb.edu/covid-19>.

We hope you will participate in Friday's Student Forum if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Best,
Paz

Paz Maya Olivérez, Ph.D. (*she, her, hers*)

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