

From: Official ESU Email <esuemail@live.esu.edu>

Sent: Friday, June 25, 2020

To: ESU Students <ESUStudents@live.esu.edu>

Subject: Message to ESU Community from Marcia G. Welsh, Ph.D. - June 25, 2020

After months of remote academic instruction and institutional operation, teams of students, faculty and staff have worked to develop a comprehensive plan to prepare East Stroudsburg University for your return to a COVID-ready environment. Remember that you play a vital role in making the fall semester a positive experience for all on campus!

East Stroudsburg University has made a significant financial and personnel investment in the development of a plan intended to keep everyone in our campus community safe, healthy, and engaged as we continue to battle the invisible yet dangerous pandemic. Two specific campus teams that are guiding our efforts are the Academic Continuity Team (ACT), led by our Provost, Joanne Z. Bruno, J.D., and the Integration and Communication Task Force, led by ESU's Director of Environmental Health and Safety, Nathan Black. Together, these groups comprised of students, staff representing AFSCME, SCUPA and managers, administrators and faculty representing APSCUF, UWCC, Senate and Chair's Council, have developed plans to re-open ESU that are now available to you for review below.

The guide is a fluid document and follows guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. Please be sure that you visit the site from time to time for updates. While the Guide focuses on our return to campus, the document also includes contingency planning should we be forced to return to fully remote instruction and services. For now, here is a snapshot of what you can expect when you arrive on campus:

- **Moving In** - Students scheduled to move into ESU's residence hall will do so during the week of August 24. Instructions on how our staff will conduct move-in will be shared with you in early August. Classes will begin on Monday, August 31 at 8 a.m. We intend to follow our current academic calendar for Fall 2020 but are prepared to change academic instruction quickly if necessary.
- **Pathways to Learning** - Courses will be delivered in a variety of ways we are calling "Flex Fall," which will enable faculty to adapt their fall course delivery to include hybrid delivery (some face-to-face combined with online instruction) as well as preparing for a fully remote delivery in the case of large classes (excess of 60 students) and for contingency purposes. Face-to-face instruction will look different. Additional details are shared in the Guide.
- **Dining Options** - Dining areas are being reconfigured to allow distancing during on-site dining. There will also be to-go options available.
- **Masks and Social Distancing** - Students, faculty and staff will be required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing in the classrooms, common areas, and public spaces to the extent possible. An ESU mask will be issued to every employee and student at the start of the fall semester.
- **Staying Healthy** - Cleaning of all public spaces and common areas will be addressed periodically throughout the day to keep everyone safe. Hand sanitizing stations and plastic shielding will be installed in key academic areas and offices around campus, and appropriate signage is in place to remind everyone of traffic flow and other guidelines within all buildings. If anyone within our campus community presents with COVID symptoms, they will need to be tested immediately.

Plans are in place to quarantine those who test positive and we are also investigating ways to do contact tracing.

To be successful this fall, it will be critical that ALL members of our campus community – students, faculty, and staff – continue to follow CDC guidelines to: wear a mask; maintain a social distance of six feet whenever possible, and clean all high-touch areas that you come in contact with on a regular basis.

Policies and procedures for those who do not adhere to University health and safety requirements associated with COVID will be in place to ensure we keep our campus, our community and one another safe.

Lastly, as announced at the start of the spring semester, I'll be retiring as your president effective July 31, 2020, but I leave the campus and your future in the trusted hands of Interim President Kenneth Long and other members of ESU's senior leadership team. I hope that all of you will continue to enjoy these beautiful summer days and come back to ESU this fall ready to face any challenge that comes your way.

Marcia G. Welsh, Ph.D.
President