

From: Official ESU Email

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020

Subject: Important Message to ESU's Campus Community about Spring 2021 from Interim President Kenneth Long - October 14, 2020

Warriors,

As we continue to navigate through this very different fall semester, I want to thank everyone within our campus community for your determination not to let this pandemic keep you from reaching your goals. I genuinely appreciate our students for their tenacity in overcoming the challenges faced while learning remotely, and I am grateful to our faculty and staff as they continue to provide our students with the academic programming, support and services necessary during a time when things are everything but normal.

For many, it has been difficult to take classes remotely while managing family life, working one (or more) jobs, studying, and so much more, all while staying healthy. Some have even had to make choices between working outside of the home and childcare or eldercare. All of these decisions can be life altering. I'm proud to say that our campus community is WARRIOR strong and striving to manage these obstacles to move forward despite the barriers. We must believe these times are not forever.

We continue to monitor the national, regional and local health reports relative to COVID-19. Many states have experienced a spike in the number of positive coronavirus cases. Unfortunately in recent days Pennsylvania has joined this list, experiencing its highest seven-day virus case total since mid-April. As we stated at the start of this academic year, ESU remains committed to the health and safety of our campus community. It has to be our number one priority during this crisis, regardless of the financial burden it will place on our institution. In consultation with a wide array of administrators, faculty, students, community leaders and other university stakeholders, we have made the decision to continue providing the majority of our classes remotely for Spring 2021, with in-person instruction offered for a limited number of select courses that are necessary for a student's academic progression, such as: clinicals, field experience, student teaching and internships. This is not how we want it to be, but we must remain steadfast in efforts to maintain the health and safety of our campus and the surrounding community. ESU's Spring course schedule and registration will be available beginning the first week of November, specific registration dates will be available on the university's website on or about October 21, 2020.

In the coming days, details about Spring 2021 registration, availability of on-campus housing and other information will be available on ESU's website (www.esu.edu/open) that will answer most of your questions and provide you with plenty of resources and services. We will also be posting and updating our Frequently Asked Questions with responses that convey information related to Spring 2021, and we ask that you revisit the webpage regularly to read through the information provided as it will be updated as needed. Students should also check their official ESU e-mail accounts regularly for important messages that will detail more specifics about Spring 2021 offerings. I will also host a virtual meeting for students with ESU's senior leadership team in November to answer additional questions you may have. Details of the meeting will be coming.

Again, I thank you all for your continued confidence in ESU. Please continue to practice health safety in all you do and take care of yourself and one another.

Kenneth Long
Interim President

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