Warriors,

I hope this finds you healthy and safe and preparing to tackle your final exams soon. Yesterday afternoon, Governor Wolf issued new, more aggressive orders related to the COVID-19 guidelines for all Pennsylvanians in order to stop the spread of the virus. In order to comply with the Governor’s new orders, a larger number of ESU personnel will begin to work remotely effective Monday, December 14, 2020, with the exception of those required to perform life-supporting and essential university functions. It is important to know that East Stroudsburg University is not closed. ESU’s faculty and staff will continue to provide you with necessary services, even if the exchanges must be made electronically instead of in person. We intend to ensure that all operations continue to run smoothly and effectively to support your educational needs. Know, too, that these decisions are made for the health and safety of our students and employees, with the end goal being the success of our students.

While these troubling times have dealt many of you challenges that reach beyond your studies, I ask all of you to remain focused on your academic responsibilities. Be proud. You have weathered the unusual times presented by the COVID-19 pandemic and are near the end of another semester and a step closer to achieving your degree. Continue to connect with faculty and staff as we head toward winter break; let them know how you are feeling and how they can help. We are a family of WARRIORS. We are committed to assisting one another, especially in trying times.

My hope is that these measures are temporary and we are able to resume “current standard” operations shortly after the start of the new year. This current operating protocol expires on January 4, 2021 consistent with the Governor’s Order, but individual adjustments may be made by the University to satisfy operational needs. We will continue to provide you with updates as they become available.

In all you do, please continue to follow CDC and PA Department of Health guidelines to protect yourself and others: cover your mouth and nose with a facemask when around others, sanitize common spaces often, continue to practice social distancing (maintain at least six feet of distance between you and people who don’t live in your household), and wash your hands regularly.

Sincere thanks to all of you for your continued commitment to and support of each other in these difficult times. Please continue to stay WARRIOR strong.

Kenneth Long
Interim President

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