

March 18, 2020

Dear Members of the Keystone Community:

Last week we announced that, due to the ongoing public health issues surrounding the Coronavirus (COVID-19), we were extending Spring Break until Monday, March 23, 2020. We also said that we were closely monitoring developments related to COVID-19 and were working with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health concerning the best ongoing decisions to make regarding the health and well-being of the Keystone community.

Today, we are announcing that we will continue to follow the CDC and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania recommendations regarding safety and social distancing and therefore **will suspend all face-to-face classes as of Monday, March 23, 2020**. On that date we will continue instruction on an online-basis only for the duration of the Spring Semester. Faculty members are currently working, and will continue to work, to determine how this can best be accomplished in their respective areas.

As a result of this decision, the following events are being cancelled in keeping with the federal guidelines regarding the assembling of groups of not more than 10 people at any one gathering: Accepted Students Days, April Open House, April Career Fair, Grad Finale, All-College Honors Convocation, and the Spring Undergraduate Research and Creativity Celebration. **No decision has yet been made regarding Commencement.**

We reach this difficult decision with one purpose in mind: to keep as many members of the Keystone community as safe and healthy as possible during this historic and critical time. While we originally considered resuming face-to-face classes and reopening residence halls sometime in April, ongoing developments with COVID-19 and continued requirements from local, state, and federal governments have made that decision no longer possible. From a practical standpoint, shifting back to in-person classes, even if that were possible, with only two weeks left in the semester would neither be practical nor feasible.

We will continue to monitor this situation and act in accordance with federal and state guidelines and requirements. We also realize there will be additional questions by our students, faculty, and staff. We have attempted to address as many of those concerns as possible in the [attached FAQ's](#). If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact individual members of our faculty and staff as warranted.

Of course, these are highly unsettling times for everyone, not only at Keystone but throughout the nation and around the world. Keystone College will continue to act with the health, safety, and well-being of our entire college community as our top priority. Our mission and tradition has always been to care about everyone and now is the time for all of us to continue to carry on that tradition each and every day. We also know that Keystone will emerge from this crisis more united than ever. Because of this confidence, we can say, “Believe, Belong, Become” at Keystone College.

We will continually update the Keystone community as new information becomes available.

Sincerely,

Tracy L. Brundage, Ph.D.
President