

Dear Members of the Keystone Community:

I would like to take this opportunity to provide a brief update on the current COVID-19 situation on campus and inform you about plans for the spring semester.

To this point, our positive COVID-19 cases have remained low. We offer our sympathy and support to all those who have been affected and we also offer our sincere thanks to students, faculty, and staff for taking the necessary safety precautions the past few months.

This horrible pandemic is still very much a part of our lives and positive cases have been on the rise in many parts of the nation, including here in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Therefore, it is critical that everyone should continue to follow all health and safety precautions including hand-washing, social distancing, and wearing of masks both indoors and outdoors while on campus. As a reminder, masks must be worn over one's mouth and nostrils for proper protection. Let's continue to work together to stay safe and healthy during this challenging time.

As you know, classes on campus will continue until Thanksgiving break, which begins Wednesday, November 25, and classes after Thanksgiving break, beginning Monday, November 30, will resume in a remote format only, with the semester ending Friday, December 11. Residence halls will be closed after Thanksgiving break. Accommodations in residence halls will be available for students experiencing housing insecurities or technology challenges as a result of this change in scheduling. Further details will be shared by the Office of Residence Life next week.

Traditional undergraduate classes for the spring semester will begin on January 25, 2021 and will be offered in the same format as the fall semester. This model includes simultaneous face-to-face and remote learning that allows students to choose how they attend classes, thereby ensuring their safety and comfort. Because health experts have warned the pandemic will be with us for some time to come, the College will not have a Spring Break. We will observe our usual three-day holiday weekend with classes cancelled on Monday, April 5, 2021. Classes will conclude on Friday, May 7 and exams will be held from May 10-14. We encourage you to register for spring classes as soon as possible.

Once again, I am so proud of everything we have accomplished this semester and I look forward to what we will accomplish in the months to come. Let's continue to unite and demonstrate the pride and promise of Keystone College.

Sincerely,

Tracy L. Brundage, Ph.D.
President