

## CAMPUS RESPONSE TO COVID-19 031220

Dear Colleagues,

I trust you read the message from Chancellor Malhotra earlier today about the steps being taken across the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system to manage the COVID-19 virus. These steps are based on Minnesota Department of Health recommendations for schools and are being integrating into the planning efforts underway at Minneapolis College.

Our cross-functional team is devoting its full attention to helping our campus prepare for and respond to the COVID-19 situation in a way that considers the implications to our specific students, staff and faculty. While the changes being made may feel quite disruptive, they are necessary to support the wellness of our campus community.

Please note the following changes are now in effect and will guide our operations until further notice:

- Spring break is being extended for an additional week concluding March 22. Beginning March 23, classes will resume utilizing various delivery formats.
- Campus will remain open.
- Faculty, staff and administration will continue to work according to usual schedules.
- Specific plans to provide courses using distance learning options whenever possible will be finalized next week.
- Service areas will be developing strategies to allow students increased remote access for academic and student support services.
- All College-sponsored events with an anticipated attendance of 100 people or more are cancelled effective March 16. This includes the April 2 All College Meeting. We will look for an opportunity in the future to reschedule this meeting. In the meantime, we will continue to share information through other channels as needed.
- All outside events planned to be held on campus have been cancelled effective March 16.

Ongoing information will be provided through announcements in Minneapolis Connect, [www.minneapolis.edu](http://www.minneapolis.edu) and [www.minnstate.edu](http://www.minnstate.edu).

Administration is continuously monitoring the situation to help minimize the impacts on our campus community. Please continue to monitor all communication channels on a routine basis and watch for additional messaging and information from your division leaders. Faculty may expect more specific guidance from Gail, Student Affairs, Equity and Inclusion from Patrick, Finance and Operations from Chris, Information Technology from Tiffni, and Advancement, Marketing, and Communications from Deanna. Dianna and Human Resources are working closely with all areas.

Your patience and cooperation is greatly appreciated as we navigate this complicated and quickly changing situation together. While maintaining campus operations are critical to serving our

students, your health and wellbeing is of utmost importance so, please, above all else, take care of yourself and your family.

Thank you, again, for your continued commitment to our mission, for the work you are doing and the work you will do. Stay well.

Sharon

We see a college that provides access to excellence and pathways to opportunity.