



Dear GCC Community:

We continue to monitor the coronavirus closely and to plan appropriately. There are currently no known cases of the Coronavirus in Grove City or in the Western PA region and we continue to work closely with Federal and State agency guidelines.

While we are making plans in the event of the need to move courses online, we are not immediately planning to do so. Please know we take this, and every other, decision we are faced with seriously and are committed to your wellbeing and health. As I have shared before, the College has a Coronavirus Preparedness Team in place and many decisions are being made behind the scenes.

These include:

- The additional cleaning of high usage areas on campus.
- Continuing to communicate updates and/or best practices to students for the prevention of illness (please see below). Let's not understate the importance of our individual actions.
- Cancelling non-essential travel to areas where the outbreak is a concern or the CDC advises individuals not to travel.
- Working with groups and organizations on campus to limit/suspend events and/or travel.
- Developing a plan to move courses online in the event of a campus shutdown.
- Thinking through potential outbreak scenarios with regard to determining when or if students would need to leave campus.
- Evaluating our international travel for the May/Summer programs.
- Asking those who develop any "flu like" illness to self-isolate in their room and to contact the Zerbe Health Center at 724-458-3850 to schedule an appointment.
- Planning and implementing self-isolation protocols.
- Encouraging student with "flu-like" symptoms to stay or return home and get well.

We will continue to evaluate the situation daily, and to develop and implement plans that allow us to finish the semester by whatever means necessary while maintaining the health and safety of our GCC community.



To prevent the spread of this and most other viruses, the CDC recommends the following:

- Wash your hands frequently for 20 seconds or more under warm water with soap.
- Use alcohol-based sanitizer if unable to wash hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, face and mouth with unwashed hands.
- If you cough, sneeze or have a runny nose, always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue.
- Throw used tissues into a trash can immediately and wash your hands thoroughly before touching anything or anyone.
- Do not share food, drink, utensils or dishes with others, and wash dishes, cups and silverware after use to prevent someone else from using contaminated items.
- The Zerbe Health and Wellness Center is monitoring all available information from the CDC, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and other agencies to train and prepare to respond immediately to any eventual case of COVID-19 which might occur on our campus.

For the most up-to-date information about 2019-nCoV, visit the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website.

Sincerely,

Larry E. Hardesty

Vice President for Student Life and Learning