

March 13, 2020

Coronavirus Update for the Harrisburg University Community

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) has been monitored by HU since it first emerged. Currently, there are no identified cases in the HU community. Harrisburg University's Threat Assessment Team is actively monitoring the latest news regarding the virus.

However, the safety and health of the Harrisburg University community is the primary concern of leadership, and out of an abundance of caution and concern the following actions are being taken.

- All undergraduate courses scheduled for March 16, 17 and 18 are canceled.
- Online graduate courses should proceed as scheduled for March 16, 17 and 18.
- Beginning Thursday, March 19, 2020 and continuing until the end of the Spring semester, April 23, 2020 all classes for undergraduate and graduate students will be delivered online. No face-to-face sessions will be held. No student access to laboratories or classrooms will be provided.

Undergraduate students currently residing in Harrisburg University affiliated housing will be given the option to stay in their current room or to return home for the remainder of the Spring semester. Students electing to remain in their current room will have internet access to fully participate in the upcoming online courses. However, students remaining in their rooms will NOT have access to other Harrisburg University facilities. The choice to stay or return home rests with the family and the student. HU has been advised that because this is an elective option to return home, no housing refunds will be provided by the housing owner (Harrisburg University does not own the housing buildings). If students elect to stay, they should plan to have sufficient supplies to meet their needs for the duration of their stay. The University cannot guarantee that retail and restaurant establishments will continue to remain open should things escalate.

Student Services is fully prepared to help families move their students out of housing should that be the desired choice. Students electing to leave Harrisburg University affiliated housing may move out beginning Saturday, March 14, 2020 and must complete moves by Sunday, March 22, 2020. If a student elects to return home, they will not be allowed to return to Harrisburg University affiliated housing until the beginning of the Summer semester. Please contact Student Services at StudentServices@harrisburgu.edu for details concerning the process for returning home for the remainder of the Spring Semester.

Harrisburg University faculty and staff should report to work as usual to continue to support our students.

Harrisburg University will continue to monitor the coronavirus situation and will provide periodic updates as necessary.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is the primary resource for up-to-date information on all diseases and biological threats. CDC information about this virus is available at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html.

Advisories concerning travelers' health based on location are available at: https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list

Any HU student who is experiencing concerns such as anxiety, depression, or academic stress as a result of this issue should contact the BHS Student Assistance Program. You can login via the app/web, https://portal.bhsonline.com, or call 800-327-2251. The username is HarrisburgU. Outreach to BHS is confidential, and each student is assigned a master's level clinician as a care coordinator. BHS will provide HU students with quality, in-the-moment support.

Any employee experiencing similar concerns should contact the confidential Employee Assistance Program at 1-800-316-2796.