

Email to South Central College Faculty and Staff from President Parker

March 12, 2020

COVID-19 Updates and Impacts

Colleagues,

As you know the COVID-19 pandemic situation continues to develop rapidly, and we are committed to providing you with significant updates as they arise. As always, the wellbeing of our students, faculty and staff is our top priority and we continue to weigh the health risks associated with COVID-19 and the potential impact on student success and progress.

Attached are the emails sent by the Minnesota State Chancellor earlier today to Faculty and Staff and to Students, indicating that Spring Break for Students will be extended for one week, with classes suspended March 16 – 22 and resuming March 23.

During this one-week period, Dr. Burt will be working with faculty and staff to explore potential alternate academic delivery methods that may be put into place, when classes resume March 23. Alternate delivery is being defined broadly by Minnesota State as “non-face-to-face” to include online, hybrid, video, conferencing calls, and alternate assignments among many others viable methods of delivery; the definition does not require all classes to meet “online.” The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTLE) will serve as the central resource and point of contact for faculty support, to explore and adopt alternate methods for delivery. The CTLE will be working with Dr. Burt to provide on-campus and remote training and support. Details will be forthcoming. So, please closely monitor your SCC email accounts.

In addition, we have three more COVID-19 related updates specific to South Central College faculty and staff:

- We have just learned that our HLC visit will be fully-virtual due to COVID-19. More details will follow.
- Tomorrow, Friday, March 13, the South Central Healthcare Coalition will have a media briefing on our North Mankato Campus about what local organizations are preparing for COVID-19. This is just for media and Coalition partners and not open to the general public, but we thought you should know.
- Minnesota Management and Budget has also provided information on leave options, including working from home, for state employees impacted by COVID-19 on their website under frequently asked questions.

Again, this is a rapidly developing situation and there will be additional news we need to share with you. In addition to continuing to monitor your email for these significant updates, I encourage you to also visit our COVID-19 webpage for additional information. As always, please continue to promote SCC’s welcoming culture focused on courtesy and respect and free of discrimination.

Appreciatively,

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