

Special Edition: Coronavirus Communication 11

March 24, 2020

Good Evening:

As we settle into our new normal, I am glad to share that we have more students recognizing that they need to check out devices to successfully continue their courses. We have had an uptick in the number of requests since we had to, unfortunately, close our computer labs yesterday. Please share with students to complete a MOJO ticket and email Jennifer McDonald at jennifer.mcdonald@mcc.edu this week if they have need of a device. Her leadership on this effort has been tremendous. Please ask them to work with one of the internet providers to obtain free wifi.

I am also hearing that some of our students have not returned to classes this week. Please raise a flag in MyCompass for any such student as soon as possible so that he/she can be triaged quickly. It is important that we catch as many of these unreturning students this week so we can support their successful return.

Yesterday I shared that we will continue teleworking and telelearning through May 3. This means that commencement and graduation activities will be postponed. Commencement and our graduation activities are not canceled, just postponed until after we are no longer under a health threat. I have requested AVP Dale Weighill to facilitate a virtual committee of those involved with leading graduation and commencement activities. The committee will recommend to me a new time period to host these important events. He will be contacting those individuals this week with a deadline to offer a recommendation by April 7.

During today's Executive Cabinet meeting, we listened to a draft proposal from Academic Affairs for completing the winter term as well as the start of the summer session. A final recommendation should be brought to me soon for consideration.

I was pleased to watch the local news this evening and to see MCC featured for their partnership with the UAW to deliver prepackaged food bags to our students. Thank you to all who participated yesterday bagging food and today delivering the food bags. These efforts will continue through this crisis period. Thanks go out to Lead Social Worker Dinah Schaller and Board of Trustees Secretary Art Reyes for their leadership and organization of this important activity for our students' success. If you would like to volunteer, or know a student in need of food, please contact Dinah at dinah.schaller@mcc.edu.

Several faculty and staff have offered suggestions or recommendations that I have shared in the Communication. I wanted to take time and give a status report to those suggestions.

Suggestion: Gather student outcome data on our new alternative learning experiences.

Status: **Contacted IR to review and propose research projects.**

Suggestion: Loan students webcam-equipped laptops and provide Comcast's free broadband access.

Status: **Loaned students Chromebook and Mifi pucks. Promoted Internet Provider promotions.**

Suggestion: Offer to the Red Cross one of our MCC facilities for a needed blood drive in the community.

Status: **Red Cross Blood Drive will take place in the Event Center, Friday, March 27, 10 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.**

Suggestion: All healthy individuals should consider giving blood to the Red Cross.

Status: **Promoted the on-campus Red Cross Blood Drive this Friday.**

Suggestion: Work with Hurley Medical Center to offer drive-through COVID-19 testing.

Status: **Did not pursue since Hurley partnered with Atwood Stadium.**

Suggestion: Remember students are trying to cope with the pandemic *and* keep up with their grades. Teachers could consolidate their communications into two main messages a week. Create a streamlined and predictable communication plan for students.

Status: **Shared suggestion in Coronavirus Communication 9.**

Suggestion: Create a fund to which faculty and staff can contribute for the financial support of students and their families.

Status: **Please contribute to the Student Emergency Fund by contacting dinah.schaller@mcc.edu. We have already given 12 emergency fund grants since the crisis began last week.**

Suggestion: Make a monetary donation to healthcare facilities so they can purchase supplies. As educators, we train their staffs and we should support them as well.

Status: **Made the request to The Foundation for MCC to support the local hospitals with a donation.**

Suggestion: Donate masks and other supplies to local hospitals.

Status: **Donated to local hospitals today:**

- **1000 nurse bouffant caps**
 - **500 shoe covers**
 - **12 Sterile Drapes**
 - **700 Masks (Paper with Ties)**
 - **250 Masks with Shields**
 - **30 Tubs Sanitary Wipes**
 - **Nitrile Gloves (more than 15,000 pair)**
 - **Vinyl Gloves (more than 1500 pair)**
- Loaned ventilators to local hospitals.**

Suggestion: Offer high school seniors the ability to attend May online classes to get ahead of the game.

Status: **Recruiters target high school seniors for summer courses.**

Thank you for all of the suggestions and recommendations. Please continue to share!

Please don't forget to join us for the Virtual All-Employee College Meeting, Thursday, 3-5 p.m.

Live Stream: <https://video.ibm.com/channel/mott-college-tv>

Please submit by tomorrow at 5 p.m. any questions or topical areas that you believe should be

covered at questions@mcc.edu. We will take questions during the meeting as well at the same email address.

Looking forward!

Dr. Beverly

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