

## Special Edition: Coronavirus Communication 19

April 3, 2020

Good Evening:

I hope again you got out and enjoyed this gorgeous day. Tomorrow promises to be overcast and rainy, so unless you are a person who likes to jump in rain puddles, today is your day. I want to share an amazing Facebook page that everyone should visit. The [MCC Library](#) has been providing a daily trivia challenge for us to help stay connected. They offer a weekly prize drawing for all who participate and answer correctly. Next week, they will be starting an evening half-hour book reading via Facebook Live featuring *The Women of the Copper Country*, which is one of the 2020 Michigan Notable Books. I love this! Please contact Director of Library Services, Jill Sodt, for more information.

We have had great media attention this week. Below is the link to the news story featuring Respiratory Therapy Program Coordinator Kathy Gurin. MLive featured Photography Program Coordinator Bob Rentschler's transformation of his basement into a virtual multipurpose classroom. His basement is equipped with the photography equipment needed to teach his seven courses successfully. Thank you, Bob, for this tremendous effort! You can read the story here.

ABC12 video featuring Kathy Gurin:

<https://www.abc12.com/video?vid=569297742>

MLive article featuring Bob Rentschler:

<https://www.mlive.com/news/flint/2020/04/professor-transforms-basement-into-virtual-classroom-during-coronavirus-closures.html>

Guess what I am doing tonight? I bet you can't because this is a first for me. I will be attending a virtual live dance party hosted by local DJ Peter McFray. He has teamed up with The Foundation for Mott Community College to raise money for MCC's Student Emergency Fund. Peter McFray has been hosting live dance parties on Fridays and Saturdays to bring the party to households staying home and staying safe. This weekend he will be taking donations for the Student Emergency Fund while spinning live on Facebook and Instagram. The dance party begins at 8 p.m. tonight and tomorrow. You can join me tonight and enjoy all of the festivities by visiting his Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/peter.mcfray>.

We have had a number of suggestions that have come in since last week. Here is a compilation of the outcomes.

Suggestion #1

*Donate toilet paper, liquid soap, and food from the culinary department to the homeless shelters.*

**Please donate toilet paper and liquid soap to Mott Eats by going to the loading dock area of MMB on Horrigan Drive.**

**The MCC Culinary Arts Institute donated three racks of produce, dairy and a case of assorted sizes of food service gloves to Mott Eats.**

Suggestion #2

*Volunteer after work hours on your personal time to make much-needed face masks for local nursing homes, ambulance stations, and firehouses. Please keep in mind this opportunity is not sponsored by MCC.*

**Please contact Debbie Lawler if you would like to help make these masks on your own time.**

Suggestion #3

*Volunteer during work hours to support our MCC Advisors' efforts to contact students who have not shown up for the new telelearning class experience.*

**Please contact Jennifer McDonald if you are interested in contacting students.**

Suggestions #4

*Allow students to use the MCC Library dropbox as a second option for mailing back textbook rentals at the end of the Winter semester.*

**The logistics of returning books while the Library is closed and not physically staffed prohibits this as a good option at this time. The bookstore has extended the return due date to 5/15/2020. If the bookstore location is still closed, students can return books when the store opens. No late fees will be assessed. Students can also login to their BNC account and print the return label to mail the books back to BNC.**

Suggestion #5

*Offer no-cost childcare for essential workers only. The childcare experience would be week to week. Parents would check children in and out without entering the Center. Extra cleaning would need to occur.*

**We are not going to be able to open the Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC) at this time. ECLC staff were not deemed "essential" for business continuity purposes.**

Suggestion #6

*We should continue to support our non tech-savvy faculty with mentorship from ETOM/Mott certified instructors who can assist, guide and support them through this massive change.*

**The Deans have been asked to send out emails to identify and recruit technology skilled faculty who can assist their lesser-skilled colleagues.**

Suggestion #7

*Employees could establish a PayPal account and send lunches to employees at the local hospitals periodically.*

**The Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement will work with the Foundation to make this happen.**

Suggestion #8

*Support Factory Two (Flint's Community Makerspace) in their work to manufacture PPE through the FabLab offering lab space, donated materials, or assisting with manufacturing.*

**The Fablab Director is working on the best recommendation for MCC to support these types of efforts.**

Suggestion #9

*Offer better signage by using the sandwich signs on the north side of the campus when hosting COVID-19 medical services. Folks often enter on the north side of campus looking for things like Ballenger Field House. It can be hard to know where to park or how to get to certain buildings.*  
**The next Red Cross Blood Drive is April 10, 9 -3 pm, in the Event Center.**

**The Public Safety Department will place the sandwich signs from both entrances to the campus.**

Suggestion #10

*Send out notifications to students reminding them to take a few minutes to check their contact information and make sure it is up to date. This will assist with better communication for students when attempting to support them during the crisis.*

**The Vice President of Student Success Services will send an email reminder to students about the importance of having updated contact information. This email will be sent regularly during summer and fall semesters.**

Suggestion #11

*The College could donate toilet paper and paper towels to students and staff.*

**Please donate toilet paper and paper towels to Mott Eats by going to the loading dock area of MMB on Horrigan Drive.**

This afternoon I attended the virtual MCCA Presidents' Meeting to discuss issues surrounding the pandemic at a state collegiate level. The issues discussed were Executive Order 2020-35 that closed face-to-face K-12 schooling for the rest of the year, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and community college's signing MOUs that allow their facilities to be used as additional hospital space for sick patients.

Please remember to stay home and don't come to campus unless it is essential and approved by your Executive Cabinet member. If you are not feeling well or have a sick person in your household or have had physical contact within six feet of someone who has symptoms of being sick, please do not come to campus. Please continue to telework and share if asked, that you are not eligible for the assignment. It is critically important that we stay home, stay safe, and stay well.

Have a marvelous weekend!

Looking forward,

Dr. Beverly

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