



EMU@Lancaster Update

Mary Jensen <mary.jensen@emu.edu>

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Dear EMU staff, faculty, and students,

It is June 15 and I have just a few quick updates for you regarding the EMU at Lancaster re-opening plan for Fall 2020. I understand that some of you have likely been included in email distributions that were intended for Virginia employees and students. I want to remind you, as those communications indicated, that Virginia and Pennsylvania will re-open under different state governments and departments of education and therefore under location-specific guidelines.

Here are today's updates from EMU at Lancaster:

1. Thanks to the excellent work being done by [Recovery Lancaster](#), I am grateful to report that we were recipients of an allotment of PPE for use on our site. We will have a good supply of hand sanitizer and Clorox wipes on hand when students and staff return.
2. The only new guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Education since my last communication was on the subject of collegiate athletics and therefore, not applicable to our enterprise.
3. Linda Witmer, Julie Siegfried, and Marcy Root will be our representatives on the Lancaster County Health Mitigation Team subcommittee for Higher Education. This involvement ensures that we will incorporate best practices and adopt state required guidelines as we develop our internal Health and Safety Plan.
4. The Lancaster Leadership Team is hard at work, drafting the various considerations that must be addressed in the overall Health and Safety Plan that must be in place before we re-open the site. We anticipate being able to share that plan with you by about August 1.
5. Fall semester for all Lancaster programs will begin Tuesday, September 1 and will end Friday, December 18, 2020. Barring a dramatic spike in COVID-19 that necessitates a return to increased restrictions for Lancaster County, we anticipate offering face-to-face classes as planned in the Fall, while also providing Zoom access for those who have vulnerability concerns or in cases where course enrollment exceeds on-site classroom capacity. Specific accommodations - by program - will be communicated later this summer.
6. Finally, program directors are working together to collect and house additional training resources for faculty who are being asked to be ready to facilitate their courses online as the trajectory of the pandemic demands. More specific information will be shared with faculty as it becomes available.

In closing, I have attached a couple of classroom photos. You will note the new classroom configurations take into account social distancing practices and that Marcy is getting ready to welcome you (from a distance) back on site. We look forward to the day!

Warmly,

Mary

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3 attachments



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IMG_2082.jpeg
1804K



IMG_2088.jpeg
3604K
