

Dear Union County College Community,

As we start another week, my first hope is that you had a safe and productive weekend. My second hope is that you are warding off the boredom or stir crazy feelings that you may be having by taking care of yourselves. I know it wasn't a particularly nice weekend to be outside, but try to get some fresh air when you can.

As you may have heard, this weekend, the federal government extended its social distancing guidelines through at least April 30, 2020. This includes avoiding nonessential travel, gathering in groups of more than 10, and dining at bars and restaurants. At the College, we are providing instruction remotely via Canvas until further notice. We are complying with the orders and directives from our state government through Governor Phil Murphy. We also continue to monitor the situation and are staying informed because things are still evolving.

Cases

Since my last letter on Friday evening, three positive cases of COVID-19 were self-reported to the College.

This brings the total to 7 cases that have been self-reported to the College.

Please continue to stay home and practice social distancing.

Commencement

I am disappointed to make the following announcement because Commencement is the most joyous day of the year at the College. ***In light of the current situation, Union County College's spring 2020 Commencement, originally scheduled for May 20, 2020, will be postponed.*** We will not make a decision as to the new date until we are able to return to normal operations. Students who meet graduation requirements will have their degree conferred as of the original graduation date, May 20, 2020.

Students

Remember to communicate with your instructors. They are here to help you.

If there is anything that you need, please call our hotline:

- 908-709-7988 (English)
- 908-709-7989 (Spanish)

Employees

If you or your family is having difficulty, please contact Karlene Rambaran in HR at 908-709-7144. If you are in need, reach out. We want to help you.

As time goes on, we are more and more likely to have personal connections to those who are diagnosed. They may be acquaintances, friends, family, or those in our households. Please take care of yourselves. Be safe. Remember that we are here for you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Margaret M. McMenamain
President