

Covid-19 Update, March 25, 2020

- Eastern Maine Community College continues to monitor developments related to COVID-19 and is following the guidance of the Maine CDC and the Maine Community College System Response Team.
- All spring semester instruction has pivoted from face-to-face instruction to alternative delivery options, and nearly all student services and operational activities are being performed by staff working remotely.
- Nick Runco, Mike Preble and Mariah Hughes are developing student-centric and faculty-centric landing pages as clearinghouses of useful information, helpful teaching and learning resources, opportunities for engagement, and continuity of community that is vital as we move through the semester.
- HR has developed a list of essential personnel to ensure continuity of services at the college who will be the only group of individuals granted access to campus buildings. They are also creating a limited list of individuals who will be granted access to campus buildings in emergency situations.
- IT is finalizing the assignment of technology tools needed to teach and/or work in a remote environment. They continue to provide full support to help individuals troubleshoot technical issues during this rapid transition. They are also setting up processes in order to be able to provide support remotely as all IT staff will be vacating campus by the end of the week.
- Housekeeping and Maintenance will begin a process of deep cleaning and sanitizing classrooms, labs, and offices as those spaces become vacant with the goal of moving all remaining essential personnel to Maine Hall. This will allow vacated buildings to be sealed off once completely cleaned and sanitized.
- Staff in Residential Life are providing support and service to a very small number of residential students who were granted permission to stay on campus due to extenuating circumstances. They have also created some engagement activities on social media to keep students connected.
- FLIK dining services has met with the staff in Residential Life to develop and deploy a food service option for the few students who will remain on campus. The plan involves prepacked food available for student pickup and self-service in the residential halls.
- Both Faculty Senate and College Senate indicated that everyone is doing what is expected of them in response to guidance from the college and CDC and stand ready to support the college. Nate Tapley indicated that the College Senate expressed satisfaction with the level of action and communication the President and Senior Leadership have displayed during the difficult transition.
- Mariah Hughes worked with student leaders to develop and deploy several informational videos explaining why it is critical for young people to follow the CDC guidelines. She is also working on a campus-wide engagement campaign focused on faculty and staff taking a fun, creative photo of themselves in/with EMCC gear (t-shirts, hat, water bottles, program garb, etc) while holding a piece of paper with name, title, and email on it to let students to know we are thinking of them and here to help.
- Pilar Burmeister reported that allied health are finishing clinical simulation labs this week, She also reported that the outpouring of community support for the allied health programs and their respective faculty and students has been overwhelming and much appreciated.

The next scheduled update will be distributed on Wednesday, April 1