



Clarion University Coronavirus Response

Campus Communication Update April 27, 2020

This is always an exciting week on campus with final exams, students preparing for graduation, the employee recognition program and an overall a sense of accomplishment that another academic year has come to a successful conclusion.

This year, the circumstances are different – very different – but we should be even more proud of all that has been accomplished. Under challenging circumstances that we could not have imagined, we have helped students transition to a fully remote learning environment, worked to quickly move them off campus in an orderly and safe manner, and learned how to transition ourselves to a remote work environment.

I extend my gratitude to each of you for your flexibility and hard work on behalf of our students.

Below are a few updates as the semester wraps up.

- Students will graduate. Although we are not able to hold traditional May commencement ceremonies, we will mark the occasion now, then invite graduates to a special ceremony in December.
- Beginning next week, preparation for construction activities at Moore Hall and Stevens Hall will resume. This is a Department of General Services project, and they have advised the university that, with recent approval by the governor, they will resume these projects.
- New campus signage is almost ready for delivery and installation. We anticipate the vendor will begin that work on campus in May.
- The annual campus steam shutdown will occur as planned, beginning next week. We are reviewing normal summer facilities projects and will begin that work as we are able.
- Planning continues regarding the [governor's plans for phased reopening](#) of the Pennsylvania economy. Our planning is focused on the Yellow Phase. The Yellow Phase does not signal a return to pre-coronavirus operations. In the Yellow Phase, a limited reopening of campus may be possible, although telecommuting will continue for employees who are able to do so. After the governor announces that we are in the Yellow Phase, more detailed information will be shared by division heads regarding return-to-work plans.
- Employees should keep in mind that the entire commonwealth remains under a stay-at-home order through May 7, 2020.

It is understandable that employees are anxious to return to campus, not only for work needs, but to interact with colleagues whom they have seen only via a computer screen, at best, during the past six weeks. To ensure the health and safety of employees, the university is focused on integrating continued adherence to social distancing requirements with employees' need to be on campus to reasonably perform work.

We anticipate more information and direction from the commonwealth and State System this week and next week. We will keep you updated.