

March 12, 2020

Dear GV Community,

Given the rapid acceleration of the COVID-19 situation in the United States and around the world, Grand View has made the decision to move to a social distancing mode. This means that we will be taking all our face-to-face classes online for the two weeks following Spring Break, March 23-April 3. During this time, the University, offices, residence halls and dining services will remain open. Students should plan ahead for online instruction before leaving for Spring Break, especially if you are departing campus.

We are concerned for the safety and wellbeing of our students, faculty and staff. We are also concerned about the health of our community and recognize the need to implement this social distancing strategy to help slow the spread of the virus. As we leave for Spring Break and travel around the country and beyond, we increase our potential exposure to the virus. The two-week period of online instruction aligns with the incubation of the virus and will help us all reduce the likelihood of community spread. In addition, we encourage everyone to practice social distancing and avoid encounters with large groups of people.

For resident students, we ask that you report your Spring Break plans by filling out this short <u>form</u>.

We will continue to monitor the situation and will be providing ongoing communication as the situation evolves.

As Grand View operates in "social distancing mode," digital communication will be vitally important. Following are the official sources of information from the University.

- A section of the University's website will contain information regarding the University's actions relative to the COVID-19 situation. You can access it <u>here</u>. This website will be updated on a regular basis.
- Official updates intended for the entire community will come from the ANNOUNCEMENTS email account; the subject line will include "COVID-19 update" so you know to pay particular attention.
- For students' online academic work, your professors will communicate directly with you via email and/or Blackboard.

This is uncharted territory for all of us. Be assured we are working diligently to maintain quality of instruction and learning while protecting the health and safety of our campus community. Thank you for your cooperation and partnership in this endeavor.

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Kent Henning President Grand View University