

March 31, 2020

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

I hope everyone's Spring semester is moving forward successfully and that this message finds you all healthy.

Over the weekend, [Governor Cuomo announced](#) the extension of his directive for all state non-essential workforce to continue to work from home until April 15th. NCC will continue operating remotely until further notice. All employees not deemed essential are expected to continue to work remotely and essential staff should be taking direction from their supervisors. Any faculty or staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 should reach out to their direct supervisor as well as Human Resources to make them aware.

We continue to ask that students do not return to campus until further notice. All classes that can be instructed remotely have been transitioned to this form of instruction. Given this new reality, faculty and student correspondence is essential. I am thankful to the individual academic and academic support areas that have been proactively reaching out to students and responding to student questions, comments, or concerns. In addition, there is also a group of staff who are phoning all of our 14,000 plus students this semester. We know that this transition to remote instruction might be presenting some unforeseen challenges and we want to know how you are doing and find out if there is any support we can provide. Please take the call. We are here to help.

Since the announcement about mass gatherings several weeks ago, Commencement has been on many of our minds. We understand how significant Commencement is for you, your families, and all who have supported you throughout your academic career here at NCC. In collaboration with students, faculty, and staff we are endeavoring to celebrate your accomplishments. To maintain the safety and health of our graduates and their families and loved ones, faculty, and staff we will not be holding the traditional face to face large gathering Commencement ceremony on May 22, 2020 as we had originally scheduled. We are working closely with several individuals and groups to develop alternative virtual options for the ceremony. Please continue to check your emails and the website for updates.

Finally, I know it seems like every time we turn on the news we are only seeing the negative but I encourage us to focus on the positive. If you have a positive story to share during this time, then please email marketing-communications@ncc.edu and let us know about it or share your story on social and use #NassauStrong!

We are in this together and I encourage you all to lean on one another for support. These are challenging times and we will get through them, as each day brings opportunities to identify new and different moments of magnificence. We are Nassau Strong!

Regards,

Jermaine F. Williams, Ed.D.

President – Nassau Community College