Subject: Campus Developments, Guidance on Housing | March 17, 2020

Dear Parents,

Thanks to all who were able to participate in today’s virtual town hall meeting for parents and students. Our aim is to be transparent and forthcoming as we work together to adapt to the changing landscape. A video of the session will be linked soon at plattsburgh.edu/coronavirus.

Through this process, we are focused on the continued education of your student this semester in different formats and with the precautionary measures we have shared previously.

As the state’s response to COVID-19 continues to evolve, I want to share more direct instructions that are being put out today throughout the SUNY system at the direction of Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

**Students Encouraged to Stay Home, Not Return to Campus**
Students are encouraged to stay or return home and not return to campus after spring break, until further notice. Residence hall space is available for those students with special circumstances, such as international students or those where other safe living and dining arrangements cannot be made. This is a growing point of emphasis as the state response to COVID-19 continues to escalate.

Due to increasingly limited staffing, on-campus services continue but with more limited hours. We are maintaining limitations on gatherings consistent with social distancing and public health guidelines. These may become more restrictive and more limiting over time. The gym is now closed, and all campus events have been cancelled. The library will have limited hours beginning today. Based on the governor’s proclamation, all food service will likely need to shift to take-out boxed meals.

Please contact Campus Housing and Community Living at housing@plattsburgh.edu for move-out details and related needs. More direct communication will be coming from them to on-campus students on Wednesday.

**Campus Developments**
On Monday evening, the Clinton County Health Department reported the first confirmed case of COVID-19 locally. The individual has no specific connection to our campus community, but it underscores the critical importance of all us practicing social distancing and the prevention tips that have been shared. Please follow this advice.

For our teaching faculty and professional staff, an increasing number are working at home. The college is advancing toward the Monday, March 23 return of instruction. Teaching faculty are building their capacity this week and even tapping their peers to better prepare. Because of the added restrictions, we will not require students’ physical presence to meet program requirements, until further notice. All academic requirements
that previously anticipated a return of students after spring break instead are moving to provide remote participation options until such time as a safe return to campuses by students is possible.

For example, laboratory instruction that requires on-campus instruction may continue for students who may be able to attend, but will be taught remotely where possible and follow social-distancing protocols of less than 10 students per lab and more than six feet separation between lab benches and benches must be wiped down after each use. For students unable to safely attend on campus, other accommodations (distance learning; makeup provisions, etc.) will be provided.

**Spring Semester**
As I have said, we are proud of the support within the Cardinal Community through these days. We continue to lean on each other. Please follow all guidelines to keep yourselves and friends and family safe during this time, including social distancing and avoiding large gatherings.

We will update you on campus matters directly as needed and always on the website at [plattsburgh.edu/coronavirus](http://plattsburgh.edu/coronavirus).

Dr. Alexander Enyedi
President