March 6, 2020 Update on Institutional Response to COVID-19

Information related to the COVID-19 crisis remains fluid as new data is continually released from the CDC and the Department of Health. We are aware that there are two cases in Pennsylvania, one in Wayne county and one in Delaware county. The campus task force remains active in tracking updates and response guidelines. We have added the Director of the Physician's Assistant Program, Erin Burns Kilduff, MSPAS, PA-C as our newest member, for medical advice and expertise.

For your own safety, please note that the virus can spread through coughing and sneezing. Properly washing hands, cleaning commonly touched surfaces and avoiding sick people are the best ways to keep illness from spreading.

We have sanitized classrooms, residence halls and common areas within the University and ask that you clean commonly touched surfaces in your rooms and offices. Housekeeping will continue to sanitize common areas including classrooms weekly.

We will continue to monitor the situation but would like to remind everyone of the following:

- If you have a fever stay home. Do not return to work or class until you are fever free for 24 hours without medication. We are requesting this for the safety of everyone, especially for those in our community whose immune system may be compromised or who have a chronic health condition (asthma, diabetes etc..). Remember, it is the responsibility of each one of us to follow this request so our community remains healthy.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly (20 seconds) using soap and water. If you sing Happy Birthday twice, you will be covered! As a reminder, you don't have to let the water run for the entire 20 seconds.
- Use the hand sanitizer that can be found in all buildings on campus.
- Cough into your elbow and make sure you have tissues, with you if you are sneezing.
- Maintain a 6 ft. distance from others. In addition, we recommend not shaking hands etc. for now. We will update you when this changes.
- We also encourage everyone to eat healthy, get enough sleep and exercise. This will help to keep each one of us healthy.
- If you are concerned for a classmate or colleague who is exhibiting signs of illness, encourage them to seek medical attention immediately.
- Anonymous communication can be sent to the Campus Safety Department through your cell phone by the
 following method: Type 79516 in the recipient (To:) box; next, in the message section type the letters
 MUTIP (followed by your specific message); press Send.
- Continue to read all communications from the University on COVID-19.

We are asking anyone from our community who has traveled internationally during spring break or has used air travel during this time to let us know.

- Students email <u>anarcum@misericordia.edu</u>. If you already notified the Dean of Students you are already registered. However, any student who is currently in a clinical placement, internship, or student teaching, is required to notify the department coordinator.
- Faculty and staff Please notify your Dean or immediate supervisor.

We are taking these steps in the interest of public safety and the common good.