Colleagues,

Vice Chancellor Smith just released a message regarding the SDCCD movement to modified remote operations through February 22. Students will be receiving this message very soon as well. I am following up with a Mesa focused message to give more guidance on how we will be working to create a smooth transition for spring semester.



I am reminded of a Friends episode where Ross was trying to get up the stairs with a large couch. He would yell out pivot, pivot, pivot repeatedly, frustrating his helpers, and in the end unsuccessful in getting the couch up the stairs. The episode ends with him at the store asking for a refund, and the couch sawed in half. As tired as we are of words like pivot, flex, nimble...that's what we are doing right now. But... this is not March 2020, we have done a tremendous amount of work to create excellent courses and services to serve our students. As we move forward we need to focus on this moment, and build a bridge to bringing more of our community back to the college, when it's safe to do so. We will also need to identify what we are bridging to...an important conversation for us as my assessment is that we are in multiple camps regarding how we deliver instruction and services on our campus. How will we remain responsive, offer remote/hybrid courses and services and somehow have the capacity to do the work we were doing in March 2020? Can we do it all? Not in pieces, or silos.... but knowing the brilliance of all of you, we will find multiple paths forward. We do not need to saw the college in half, and we have a Roadmap...

For instruction, Deans and Chairs will work with VP O'Connor to utilize criteria to determine which courses will begin on campus. As many of you are aware, we are having a significant drop in enrollment as compared to even last semester or last year. We want to be clear with students what we are doing, and how their classes will be offered so that they can prepare as well. In our meetings this and last week we heard very clearly that faculty and classified professionals need time to transition, and thus we have a short period of time for that to happen. As we shift, it is critical that all of us respond to student inquiries immediately so that they can register, or complete a college process.

In Student Services, President's areas and Administrative Services, most have been

working remotely since January 2. We will be communicating as quickly as possible the impacts through supervisors and managers. As we near the start of the semester and in-person return, we will need more folks to begin coming back to campus to prepare. We will be in contact with everyone regarding expectations. We will be working with college and district facilities and technology staff to provide safe and updated spaces. Our thanks to these folks for their hard work through this entire time.

Please take care, and know that we are doing the best we can with what we have. I look forward to seeing you all at virtual Convocation next week. Alongside the current challenge, we have much to celebrate, and much to do during the spring semester. Look for an email from my office with details very soon.

Prez Pam

Dr. Pamela T. Luster, President San Diego Mesa College



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