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Daily AA Update

1 message

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Dear All:

Here is today's update on academic matters concerning the institution's response to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic:

1) On the question of proctoring final exams: We intend to use Zoom or other electronic means, in conjunction with our many off-site TAs, to proctor those final exams which require proctoring. My understanding from the many faculty who have raised this issue, is that it is primarily introductory courses (100 & 200 level) that need proctoring.

2) On the question of extending the semester: We decided to NOT do this. The many and varied impacts that this would have are too great.

3) On the question of assigning new readings, HW and the like during the third week of Spring Break: The decision was to allow and encourage this, because this would enable us to come closer to the educational objectives of this semester. Two caveats: (i) the assignments cannot be due during the 3rd week of Spring Break and (ii) those assignments that were given before Spring Break and due either the 2nd or 3rd week of Spring Break must have their due-dates extended to when classes resume.

4) On the question of ensuring that all students are notified that they should not report to on-site work next week (unless they have an explicit exemption): We will be sending an e-mail to all students later today to address this.

5) On the question of faculty and academic staff returning to campus on Monday: The current plan is to enable that, respecting the Time & Distance maxim of minimizing time in proximity of others while maximizing distance from others. We will have an update early next week concerning "essential" personnel (essential to be on-site), versus personnel who can work remotely.

6) On the question of distance education (DE) training: Peter Mozley and Aly El Osery are working with ACT/ITC/AFRL to pull together and implement the plan, in partnership with those faculty willing to help. There will be more about this early next week.

7) On the question of DE "shakedown" runs to test the system: Peter Mozley and Aly El Osery are working with ACT/ITC/AFRL to pull this together, and we will be asking our TAs and some faculty to help us test the system prior to resuming classes.

8) On the question of including AA Admin Assistants on these e-mails: Done.

9) On the question of approving requested AA student worker exemptions: I am working through the queue that started yesterday afternoon. Please expect answers soon, noting that the case must be very

strong, given the Governor's executive orders and the public health recommendations of Presbyterian HealthCare and the NM Department of Health.

10) On the question of student worker exemptions, generally: Lastly, we are working on creating a formal, documented process for appeals and protocols for student worker exemptions that is applicable across all divisions. This will be available on Monday.

Thanks ---- D

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