

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Christopher M. Reber, Ph.D.



March 21, 2020

Important COVID-19 Updates

Dear HCCC Students, Faculty, Staff and Friends,

Allow me to begin by thanking all members of our College community for your understanding, patience, and hard work to help us navigate, together, the current challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. I thank each of you for helping ensure the safety and welfare of our students and employees. The caring, selfless, and truly heroic efforts of so many members of the HCCC family are inspirational.

Governor Murphy has just announced a "Stay-at-Home" Executive Order that requires nearly everyone to remain at home and work from home throughout the State of New Jersey. I am therefore announcing the following updates to our HCCC plans.

- Thanks to the phenomenal efforts of our entire community, most of our College's services and office operations are already being managed remotely. We will now move all of the College's operations to remote locations effective immediately. Our offices and buildings, including the libraries and computer labs, are therefore closed until further notice. We do hope to continue providing services in our on-campus food pantries, and we will be identifying essential personnel for authorization from the Hudson County Office of Emergency Management to be on campus when necessary on a very limited basis.
- In consultation with our Board of Trustees Executive Committee and many College constituencies, including our Professional Association, we are also announcing the decision to continue fully online/virtual instruction through at least the end of the spring semester.
- We are reviewing one-time budget savings from cancelled programs for potential use in expanding our ability to fund emergency services to assist students and other community members in need. We are also sending an HCCC Foundation appeal to community contacts with a request for giving support for this work. We hope to use

these funds for laptop and other assistance related to online instruction, food pantry stocking, and support for a range of other needs.

- Please remember that while we are closing buildings and offices, we are not closing the College. We are all working remotely and online to fully serve our students and our educational mission. Students, we remain passionately committed to your success, including your ability to maintain academic progress during this temporary period of fully online instruction. We want to work with you to address any needs or concerns you may have. We care deeply about the welfare of all members of our College community and their families.

The HCCC COVID-19 Task Force will provide more detailed information and address questions shortly and in the days and weeks ahead. Please do not hesitate to let your faculty, supervisors, Task Force members, college leaders and me know how we can help and support you! Together we will get through our current challenges, because we genuinely care about one another!

With caring and sincere gratitude,



Christopher M. Reber
President