

Dear Students:

Our virtual offices will be closed tomorrow and Friday as part of our academic year's Spring Holiday (April 9-10). Normally our campus would be buzzing with activity. As COVID-19 extends our "new normal" well past earlier projections, I miss that excitement. I wonder how you and your fellow Trojans are doing.

ACM cares about your safety and that of your loved ones, whether you're on the frontlines of this pandemic or secure wherever it is that you call home.

With both your well-being and academic success in mind, I have a few new updates to share.

OPERATIONS:

On Monday, we determined that ACM will continue with remote instruction and delivery of student services. We will not open to the public until Maryland and Pennsylvania Stay-At-Home orders are lifted. Those dates are unknown at this time.

STUDENT LOANS:

If you have a federal student loan, your payments are suspended until Sept. 30, 2020. More information is available [here](#) or by calling your loan provider.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE:

If you do not have a computer or reliable internet access, or if you are in need of limited financial assistance, please confide in a faculty or staff member about your situation.

WITHDRAWAL DATE:

ACM has extended the course Withdrawal Date to April 30. Please take advantage of this extension, or contact the Advising Center if you have questions by emailing jengelbach@allegany.edu.

VIRTUAL STUDENT LOUNGE:

Visit the Student Lounge on [Brightspace](#) to locate support and information, find fun things to do to de-stress online, and stay connected.

CAREER PROGRAM COMPLETION:

If you're enrolled in a career program (many of which fall under our Health & Medical Programs), please know that we are determined to prepare you to take your licensure exam or tests. All programs have shifted to competency-based, case-by-case evaluations of students. After collaborating with program accrediting bodies, some programs were able to design clinical simulations and video-based

evaluations. Other program accrediting agencies will not allow programs to substitute clinical time. The College is working with state and regulatory agencies to extend the spring semester for some programs.

RECAP OF PAST UPDATES:

- Local students may access ACM's wifi signal in the parking lots next to our Tech Building to work on their education.
- ACM's IT Helpdesk at ithelpdesk@allegany.edu is available to help with issues logging into [BrightSpace](#), your student email, or other ACM platforms.
- Students enrolled in Nelnet have until April 27 to make their April payment. Email businessoffice@allegany.edu for assistance.
- Online summer registration opens April 20 and fall registration opens May 4. Email jengelbach@allegany.edu to set up an email or virtual advising session.
- Spring 2020 commencement exercises are moved to August, details to be announced.
- [ThinkingStorm](#) tutors and ACM learning specialists are available. Check your [Brightspace](#) account for updates or email cclifton@allegany.edu if you have questions.

I'm confident that we will come out on the other side of this pandemic stronger and even more resilient than we are today. Please feel free to contact me or an ACM faculty or staff member if you have questions.

Thinking of you and wishing you well,

Dr. Cynthia Bambara

ACM President