

March 16, 2020

These past several days especially brought an influx of information and recommendations to our community specific to COVID-19. In the midst of this rapidly changing situation, I want to take a moment to pass along my gratitude to faculty, students and staff for remaining calm and supportive of one another. I have seen numerous acts of people being level-headed, as well as many acts of kindness on display. I am proud to be a part of this campus and to be a Coug.

Some of the most impactful announcements over the weekend came in the form of Spokane County's first COVID-19 case confirmations, as well as state-wide school closures. In my role as vice president and chancellor, as well as from my seat on the system-wide Executive Policy Group, it is obvious to me and others that this puts many of you in a different position in terms of your ability to come physically to work. I want to assure you that the health and well-being of you and your loved ones is still our number one priority.

To that end, WSU Human Resource Services released this document to area personnel coordinators, providing guidance on social distancing, teleworking, common business practices and more. In short, managers will be working with their teams to flexibly accommodate needs while also ensuring we continue to meet the campus' operational needs.

I know many of you are wondering when some of these temporary measures might end. There are no hard dates I can confirm, but what I can say is that we will continue to make provisions for faculty, students and staff as long as is needed to assist in their well-being.

Sincerely,

Daryll B. DeWald

Daryll DeWald Vice President for Health Sciences, Chancellor WSU Health Sciences