

Subject: Academic Affairs Bulletin

Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 at 8:44:49 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Office of the Provost

To: STAFF-CLASSIFIED-AA-L@LISTSERV.JMU.EDU

Dear Colleagues,

As you are aware, the number of COVID-19 diagnoses has continued to grow, and the campus response is rapidly evolving. Leadership is meeting on a daily basis and making decisions as new information is received. Given the fast-moving dynamics, it is crucial to communicate with AA faculty and staff in real time.

Starting this evening, we will be sending a brief communication whenever there is something we need to distribute in the form of an Academic Affairs Bulletin. This will not be a formal document, but it is our intention to share with you the most pertinent and up-to-date information that we have.

Tonight's bulletin highlights two items:

1. About half of our on-campus students have left their residence halls. Tonight, they will receive an email from the University Health Center with instructions for monitoring their health and managing their social activity for the next 14 days. You will likely also see parallel messaging on social media.
2. We anticipate that you will continue to see significantly higher student absences this week. Every day, more of our students are in quarantine due to exposure, and more students move to isolation as they test positive. Others are relocating to their hometowns. Students are still expected to contact you regarding any absences or accommodations that are needed and take responsibility for making up work or meeting new requirements in the manner you determine. We need you to be compassionate and accommodating their absences and requests for leniency with assignments.

Thank you, once again, for all the ways you responded to the need to alter our fall plans, and for your flexibility as we manage the many changes brought on by this pandemic. We are all adjusting to a situation that seems to change hourly and your ability to adapt is essential to completing the semester successfully. If you have questions about this information, please contact provost@jmu.edu.

Your dedication and commitment continue to inspire me.

Best wishes,

Heather

Heather J. Coltman, D.M.A.

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