



Office of the President

March 20, 2020

You may have heard that Governor Cuomo has now mandated a “100% workforce reduction” for non-essential services in New York State. Because we have many students residing on campus that depend on us for food and housing, the college will continue to remain open, and we will continue to provide instruction and services remotely.

To that end, we have deemed certain individuals as essential to college operation who will need to be on campus at times during this crisis. We are communicating with those individuals directly, as well as with the Town of Amherst and the Emergency Operations Center to see what steps we need to take to ensure that there are no obstacles for these individuals getting to and from campus as needed. If you have not been designated an “essential employee” during this crisis, you are not to enter campus.

All other services and operations will have to occur remotely at this point. I want to make it clear that all of the work that all of us are doing is to ensure the continuous operation of this college so that our students can still receive an education and our faculty and staff can continue to receive pay and benefits during this time. This is not a break, but rather a time when we are working from afar, using all of our technology to provide instruction, and services electronically. It will be critical that employees are working with their supervisors to ensure that phones are answered, messages returned, and that students can still receive a true Daemen education for as long as we need to go mobile.

I continue to be thankful for all that everyone is doing at this time to serve this college, and I ask that you also take care of yourselves and your family. We will get through this together.

Cordially,

Gary A. Olson  
President