
[STUDENTS] Important Message from Sister Mary

Robyn M Krukovitz <rmkrukovitz@maryu.marywood.edu>

Mon, Aug 31, 2020 at 10:27 AM

Reply-To: rmkrukovitz@maryu.marywood.edu

To: Students@m.marywood.edu



Office of the President

Dear Marywood Students,

There are many things I wish to communicate to you at the beginning of this second week of school. First and foremost, I welcome you back to Marywood with my best wishes that this year, although different from others, will be a good one for you academically, socially, and in every way. I trust the first week was helpful in ironing out all your schedules and in answering your many questions about how your classes will work during the fall semester. I am sure in time it will all become part of your routine and be second nature to you.

Most of what I want to write to you is with regard to the times in which we find ourselves in the midst of a pandemic. **During the weekend we have learned that one student has tested positive for COVID-19.** Our first concern is for the health of this student and we will surely make certain that this person receives everything needed to recover quickly and return to campus. Please read the communication from Dr. Yerodin Lucas, our COVID-19 Campus Community Advisor, about all that has been done since we discovered this case. Here at Marywood we are prepared for this eventuality and have implemented the protocols we have carefully put into place.

Please understand that it is because I have the utmost concern for your safety that I communicate the following. **I want to be clear that this is not the time for anyone of you to tempt fate or to try to bend the rules,** especially all the policies and guidelines that you have received from all of your administrators here on campus. **I want to be clear that your actions have consequences.** If you want to experience campus life as well as in-person enrichment this semester, then you must support the policies that are designed to ensure your health and well-being and that of your classmates, faculty, and the staff who support you. **I want to be clear that hosting or attending parties is irresponsible.** I know that weekend parties, off campus, on campus, with teammates, or roommates, are all a part of the university experience. However, we are living through a pandemic and for a very small period of your lives, you must realize that this is not acceptable. By the same token, it is equally unacceptable for you to bring visitors to campus, or violate policies that mitigate the responsible social behavior of wearing masks, and remaining socially distanced from others. **Finally, I want to be clear that an open campus for the fall semester is not a guarantee unless you do what is right.** You will make this decision – for or against remaining open – by your actions. Unlike last spring, we now know what we must all do to live in these times. If you defy what we know, that wearing masks, social distancing, and sanitizing hands is what we need to do to keep from contracting and spreading the virus, we will have no recourse but to close, as some of our neighboring universities have already done. **This is on us and you are the majority of us.**

You have all read the return to campus document entitled “Ready, Set, Forward.” As I conclude this message, I wish to reinforce some of what was communicated in that document and what I have written in this message:

- You should not report to campus, clinical sites, internships, athletic practices, or University sponsored events if you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or if you have had a known or suspected exposure to someone with COVID-19. Instead, please isolate, seek medical consultation, and follow provider

recommendations prior to coming to campus.

- You are expected to complete the **COVID-19 Symptom Screening** on the Marywood App BEFORE coming to campus or leaving your dorm room each day. **A red pass means that you cannot come to campus**, or if residing in the residence hall, you **cannot participate in any activities** and should instead seek medical advice.

Our requirements at this time in history are not suggestions or mere ideas. It is possible that your violations of the policies outlined here, whether on or off campus, may be subject to disciplinary action through the student conduct process. Sanctions can include suspension or expulsion from the University.

I think you realize that my communications to you rarely, if ever, convey the tone you are reading in this email. However, it is because I and all of us here at Marywood care about our students and want what's best for your health, education, and development as responsible individuals. I think you know that we will support you in any way we can but you, in turn, must cooperate with the policies we have put in place for your well-being.

To those of you who have carefully followed our directives, I thank you, and ask you to encourage your classmates to do what's necessary for all of us to remain safe. In future times, such restrictions will be part of our history. For now, we are living in this time together and as you know, we are stronger and better together.

Enjoy Week #2 and go Pacers!



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Robyn

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