



Message to Students

3-15-20

4:37 p.m.

Sent from President Melby to students from President's Office email box

Update for students: Online instruction will continue through the end of the spring semester

March 15, 2020

Dear Students,

Your health and safety are of the utmost importance to the faculty, staff and administration of Our Lady of the Lake University. As you know the situation with the Coronavirus is evolving. Because of this, we believe that it is in your best interest to finish out the spring semester through online instruction. For this same reason, we made the decision yesterday to close the residence halls effective March 30, 2020 and for the remainder of the spring semester. Exceptions are being made for students who don't have other options.

During the extended spring break of March 16-20, staff will be working to ensure that student services will be available through online or other remote options. During this week of transition, please use email to communicate with the various campus service offices. A detailed guide for accessing services will be provided by March 17.

Limited computer resources will be available on campus for students who want to use them. Details will be provided in the next week.

For graduating students, we know commencement exercises are of special concern to you and your family. We are unable to make decisions about the timing of commencement at this time, but there will be a celebration of your accomplishments and we will communicate plans as we are able; however, the conferring of your degree will not be delayed by a delay in holding ceremonies. Students who complete requirements for graduation at the end of the spring semester, will be considered graduates of the university at that time.

Work study students should not report to work on Monday, March 16. Supervisors will be communicating directly with you over the next few days to determine next steps.

During this time of transition, faculty have been asked to provide flexibility as you adjust to this new mode of instruction. We also understand that you need flexibility because of other closures in the community that may be impacting you. We ask that everyone be patient, understanding and kind during this period of adjustment.

OLLU is a family and it will be a challenge to be physically separated during this time. However, we will continue to connect electronically, and we will continue to support and pray for one

another.

In closing, I share the words of Blessed John Martin Moye, the founder of the Sisters of Divine Providence.

“Cast your cares upon the Lord, and he will support you.” These are his own words in Holy Scripture. Carry out your duties with charity and simplicity and know the Lord is with you.
– John Martin Moye

Diane E. Melby
President