

Message regarding the University and Departmental response to COVID-19

Category: General Information - #7

Date: March 24, 2020

General:

- OAA has established a website that summarizes academic decisions taken as a result of COVID-19. <https://oaa.osu.edu/coronavirus-academic-decisions>
- Building access is limited to a list of essential personnel, which has been provided to the College.
- The Spring Picnic is formally canceled. We are considering a “Welcome Back” Event at the start of autumn semester.

Administrative:

- Central Administration is putting additional restrictions in place regarding travel, hiring, and spending discretionary funds.
 - Travel: The university has suspended all international and non-essential business travel until further notice. All scheduled travel up to June 30th is canceled. No new travel may be booked.
 - Hiring: There is a hiring pause. Essential teaching and research positions are exempt but require high-level approval (Exec Dean and/or Provost). This is regardless of funding source.
 - Financial Controls: Discretionary spend will require high-level approval. Please keep this in mind as you consider any purchasing. The process is likely to take longer than normal.

Students:

- The University Senate will be voting on a measure to make the option of turning any GE or elective course into Pass/NoPass with a deadline of April 17. There is also a proposal to extend the time to 10 weeks for students to clear an incomplete in a course.
- With passage of this proposal, the College of Arts and Sciences will be extending this option to all major and minor courses. Students would be urged to speak with their advisors regarding such steps, but ultimately the decision is up to the student.
- The Graduate School is planning to extend the same Pass/NoPass option to elective graduate courses.