

**From:** [Douglas Houston](#)  
**To:** [Douglas Houston](#)  
**Subject:** Coronavirus Chancellor's Update 4.24.2020  
**Date:** Friday, April 24, 2020 5:29:59 PM

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Good afternoon Colleagues,

I hope this email find you well and your families and loved ones.

As we enter the last few weeks of the spring term I want to again commend everyone on the work you are doing to serve our students during this pandemic. Looking back at the start of the semester none of us could have envisioned that three weeks before commencement we would be instructing and serving our students almost exclusively through remote means and preparing virtual Commencement ceremonies to celebrate our graduates.

Over the past couple of weeks we have received a number of questions about how instruction will be delivered in summer and fall terms. Will we return to in-person instruction, or will we continue to operate remotely? I cannot answer that question with certainty as there are still many unknowns about the spread of the Coronavirus and our State and counties' response. But what we can provide is clarity. We are currently planning to return to face-to-face instruction and on-site services for the summer and fall semesters but with social distancing.

We believe this is will be in the best interests of our students; many have expressed to you that they are not confident in their abilities to success in online and other remote modes and we don't want to rush into a decision that can't be undone. So we anticipate that in-person instruction will require provisions for social distancing, additional cleaning, possibly the wearing masks, and moving some classes into large spaces to allow for distancing. College and district leadership is actively preparing for those provisions.

The summer term begins on June 15; we will decide by June 1, based on health advisories at the time, whether to change to remote instruction for the term. We will base that decision on information from the state, local public health officials, and the current status of coronavirus cases in our region. As you know, the spread of the virus has not been nearly as significant in our rural communities as it has elsewhere in the state and country. While our hope is for the return of in-person instruction faculty, staff and students do need to be prepared, if the situation warrants, to shift to remote instruction and services.

As we look to Fall 2020, we will use the same process to decide how to proceed with delivery of instruction; we are planning for face-to-face and will determine no less than two weeks prior to the start of the term whether to shift to remote. We realize that some other colleges have already announced they will move to fully-online instruction for the summer, and a few have even made the decision for the fall. Those decisions fit their students and their communities; we are making our decisions in the best interest of our students and communities - and based on local/regional trends as well as state and national trends.

Here are a few additional thoughts in my latest [vlog](#) about the summer and fall term decisions, the

CARES funds and the Kind Quiz. By the way – I want to thanks YC’s Professor Greg Kemble for some pointers on these vlogs – I hope you notice some improvements.

Again, I do commend all of you for what you have done to adapt to remote instruction and life in the Zoomiverse. I hope that you, your families and loved ones are safe, and have the opportunity this weekend to enjoy some of this wonderful spring weather.

Be Well.

P.S. The next YCCD Town Hall will be on Monday, April 27 at 4:00 pm. Here is the information to participate. Log in at <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/313287518>; or call +1-669-900-6833 or +1-346-248-7799. The Meeting ID is: 313 287 518

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