

President's Report

Oakland University

Board of Trustees

Monday, April 6, 2020

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

I. Pandemic Preparedness

II. Safety and Emergency Response

III. Remote Learning

IV. Financial Impact

V. Community Engagement

Pandemic Preparedness

- **January**
 - Emergency Response Team begins to monitor spread of virus
- **February 6**
 - President convenes leadership to address COVID-19 threat
- **February 14**
 - COVID-19 Emergency Response Task Force
 - Regular briefings
 - Prioritize decision-making
 - Coordinate campus communications



Pandemic Preparedness

Established 10 operational task forces and decision making team

COVID-19 Steering
Committee

VP Decision
Making Team

Pandemic
Preparedness

Student
Affairs

Infection Prevention
and Control

Academic
Affairs

Large
Events

Travel
Registry

Human
Resources

Operations

Communications

- **Expanded services, counseling at Graham Health Center**
- **Monitoring COVID-19 and planning actions**
 - CDC recommendations and requirements, including travel restrictions, quarantine, etc.
 - Proximity of virus and frequency of infections
 - Institutional best practices in combating virus
 - Closure of Meadow Brook Hall and Golf and Learning Center
- **Readily redeployed resources**
 - Prepare facilities, resources, parking lots to respond to community health, medical and food needs

- **February 21**
 - Precautionary recommendation sent to OU community
 - Restricted international travel
 - Recommendations shared on University-affiliated travel

- **March 11**
 - Governor Whitmer announced two COVID-19 cases in Michigan
 - Converted instruction from in-class delivery to remote learning
 - Cancelled University events
 - Restricted number of people at meetings/gatherings

Safety and Emergency Response

- **March 13**
 - Option to work remotely for staff
 - First of President's four weekly video message to the OU community
 - Study abroad programs canceled through August
- **March 16**
 - Remote learning begins with plans to continue through April 25



Safety and Emergency Response

- **March 16-27**
 - **Allowed early contract release option for housing students on prorated basis**
 - **Closed residence halls, except for approx. 250 students with no other place to live**
 - **Keeping OU Food Pantry open**



Safety and Emergency Response

- **March 20**
 - Commencement postponed until August 27-29 in the O'rena
- **March 23**
 - All non-essential employees work from home



- **Deploy remote work, job rotation**
- **Determined status “essential employees” working on campus**
- **Identified immediate financial needs, expedited spending process**
- **Established “continuity management”**
 - **Regular meetings with federal, state, county and local officials/agencies**

- **Moving all winter and summer I classes to remote learning**
- **Developed options for administering final exams remotely**
- **Academic Affairs staff answering the crisis hotline**
- **Implemented S/U grading option for students**
- **Assure study abroad students received full support**
 - **All returned home by March 24**

- **Financial initiatives to assist students:**
 - **Housing refunds**
 - **Removed financial holds so students can enroll for summer and fall**
 - **Discontinued collection efforts on delinquent accounts**
 - **Halted new collection agency assignments**

- **Monitoring budget implications; FY2020 and FY2021**
 - Anticipate delay of state appropriation payment potential (\$4.8M)
 - Expect reduced NCAA allocations
 - Tracking COVID-19 expenditures for potential reimbursement from FEMA, State of Michigan, etc.
 - OU Vice Presidents are monitoring their divisions' large expenditures and vacant positions for necessity
 - Temporarily cancelled all travel
 - Paused numerous non-bond funded projects

Financial Impact

- **Reviewing CARES Act Economic Relief Plan**
 - **Anticipate \$13.4M - \$13.9M**
Determine how the funds can be allocated



- **COVID-19 STUDENT RELIEF FUND**
 - Assists students with unexpected financial hardships

NUMBER OF DONORS

106

TOTAL RAISED

\$73,785

- **Requests for funding from COVID-19 Relief Fund will cover the following expenses:**
 - **Laptops for remote learning**
 - **Connectivity (Internet, cell phone)**
 - **Food insecurity**
 - **Transportation challenges**
 - **Medical expenses**
- **Supporting OU students' unexpected financial needs caused by current crisis helps to ensure they remain on a path to graduation**

Community Engagement

- **March 20**
 - Formed The Engagement And Mobilization Task Force (TEAM)
- **March 24**
 - Oakland Center becomes county food distribution site
- **March 30**
 - OU makes Hillcrest Hall available to Beaumont and Ascension healthcare workers



- **Partnership with Lighthouse, a Pontiac-based non-profit that addresses issues of homelessness and poverty.**
- **Pursuing grant with Pontiac Community Foundation to support website (mycovidresponse.org) that matches community needs with volunteers**
- **OU volunteers are working with Detroit Sewn, a Pontiac company to make medical masks**
 - **Exploring campus space for Detroit Sewn to expand their operations.**

- **Anticipate “Shelter in Place” order to continue through May**
- **Well-prepared for the academic, administrative and societal challenges ahead**
- **Inspired by faculty’s willingness to adapt to new teaching modalities**
- **Proud of the extraordinary dedication of students, faculty and staff to contribute to the regional community**

THANK YOU

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