



April 24, 2020

Dear Members of the University Community,

As noted previously, we will send regular updates on Monday and Friday of each week with other notices sent by the President, other members of Cabinet or members of the University community when necessary.

**Get Up-to-date Information at [www.scranton.edu/covid-19](http://www.scranton.edu/covid-19)**

### **Recap of Key Information and Communications**

- University President Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., announced to seniors and graduate students that the University will **not be able to hold Senior Week activities and Commencement in May**. The University has postponed Commencement until the weekend of Oct. 24 and 25. The full message can be seen [here](#).
- Father Pilarz also wrote incoming students in the University's Class of 2024 and their parents informing them that **orientation** will now be held virtually in June. The University continues to plan for the arrival on campus of new and current students for the fall semester.
- Father Pilarz also updated the University community on a number of items including: the decisions above, **[postponing Reunion Weekend](#)**; campus closure and the **continuation of remote learning through the summer**. The full message can be seen [here](#).
- Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D., Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, sent messages to faculty regarding initial **feedback about online courses** that has been received from students through ongoing calls that are being made to all students. The Provost also sent faculty additional information regarding **final exams and support** available to faculty as they prepare for this process and **ordering books for the fall semester** from the University bookstore.

## Updates

- Patricia Tetreault, Vice President for Human Resources, would like to remind **all members of the University community that we are required to wear a mask when on campus.** The University will provide masks for essential employees. Faculty and staff may use their own mask as long as it was obtained or made in accordance with [PA Department of Health guidelines](#). Employees or supervisors with questions or concerns about this requirement should contact the Office of Human Resources.
- Two employee resource documents, the [COVID-19 Guidance for Employees](#) and the [Supervisor's Health and Safety Guide](#), have been updated in accordance with current CDC guidelines.
- The University received an update from the **Pennsylvania American Water Company (PAWC) regarding the installation project for a 36-inch water main** line that will affect some areas of campus along Laurel Line drive through to areas along Webster Avenue. Construction along Laurel Line Drive near the Fitzpatrick Field Parking Lot is expected to begin in late April, then will continue to the Ridge Row parking lot in June through mid-July; and then pass along the 200, 300 and 400 blocks of Webster Avenue in mid-to-late July. A link to more information about the PAWC project can be seen [here](#).
- A **Mass will be aired from the University on Friday, May 1**, for the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker. Rev. Herbert B. Keller, S.J., Vice President for Mission and Ministry, will provide additional details as to how to access this University Mass later next week.
- The **Graduate Student Association (GSA)** is looking for applicants to serve as representatives for the 2020-21 school year. An email to graduate students will be sent this weekend with further information.
- The University's Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence is offering faculty two **virtual Inclusive Pedagogy Workshops** in May. The first is on Friday, May 1, from 3 to 4:15 p.m. with Dr. Mary Troy from the Counseling and Human Services department, presenting on Veterans Issues. The second will take place on [Friday, May 8, from 1 to 3 p.m. when Alison Cook-Sather from Bryn Mawr](#) will present "Finding and Forging Brave Spaces: The Theory and Practice of Co-creating Inclusive and Equitable Learning Opportunities through Pedagogical Partnership". Faculty wishing to register for one or both of these workshops can do so [here](#).
- The fourth issue of [Remote Royals](#) was sent to students with information about a virtual Take Back the Night, a three-week Happiness Challenge offered by CHEW, Friends Trivia offered on Zoom, upcoming virtual political dialogs and other ways to stay connected to campus and others.

You should expect your next regular update on Monday.

Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Davis Jr., Ed.D.  
Vice President for Student Life

Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D.  
Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Patricia Tetreault  
Vice President for Human Resources