



April 3, 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

- Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D., Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, informed faculty and students that, after working with the Faculty Senate, a **revised grading policy for “credit satisfactory/credit deficiency/no credit”** will be in place for the rest of the spring semester. Over the next week, academic departments will consider which courses or programs will be eligible for this option. Because of accreditation or other important academic concerns, not all courses or programs will be eligible for this change. Students will be notified on April 9 of any courses that are not eligible. Between April 9 and May 1, interested students will be able to apply for a change to this system for eligible courses. [Undergraduate revised grading policy](#). [Graduate revised grading policy](#).
- Student Life continued to foster connection among and provide support to students through the transition to remote education. The **#RemoteRoyals Newsletter**, launched this week, will be shared each Tuesday to highlight opportunities to connect with others. Students are encouraged to check out the [Community Connections](#) for more information.
- **The University launched “[Royals Respond](#)” to recognize, honor and thank alumni and other members of the University community who are selflessly responding to the pandemic.** The site includes an [Honor Roll of Royals](#) working across a range of professions to assist with the pandemic and a collection of Royal Responder stories, photos or news clips. You are invited to [nominate a Royal for the Honor Roll](#) or [share a story](#). Also, each evening until 10:00 p.m., the **St. Thomas Gateway** is lit with a red cross on a blue background to honor all those who are bravely and selflessly responding

to COVID-19, especially acknowledging the service of alumni and members of the University community.

## Updates

- The University of Scranton community is invited to join in an **online Mass on Wednesday of Holy Week**, April 8, at 7:00 p.m. The Mass will be recorded at the Madonna della Strada Chapel on the University's campus. Instructions for accessing the video link for this Mass will be posted closer to the event.
- The University has extended its **cancellation of all campus-based events** through May 10.
- The University's **Spring Career Expo**, previously scheduled for April 2, will now be a **virtual career event on April 16 and 17** that will connect students and recruiters. Visit [www.scranton.edu/careers](http://www.scranton.edu/careers) for additional information.
- The deadline for **student fellowship proposals for the Gail and Francis Slattery Center for Humanities** has been extended to April 21. Please submit your proposal to [provost@scranton.edu](mailto:provost@scranton.edu). Questions concerning proposal submissions should be directed to either Gregory Jordan ([gregory.jordan@scranton.edu](mailto:gregory.jordan@scranton.edu)) or Matthew Meyer ([matthew.meyer@scranton.edu](mailto:matthew.meyer@scranton.edu)), the Executive and Faculty Directors of the Slattery Center.
- Members of the **University community across campus continue to provide their insight and expertise to print and broadcast media**, responding daily to media inquiries requesting their expertise on COVID-19-related stories. Recent story examples include:
  - Interviews with biology professor [Bryan R. Crable Ph.D., on Fox 56](#) and nursing professor [Mary Jane Hanson, Ph.D., in the Scranton Times-Tribune](#).
  - **University of Scranton President Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J.**, was featured in an article in [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#) entitled "Ritual, Rhythm, Community: Everything Higher Ed Does Best, the Coronavirus Attacks"
- The **Electric City Connection project has raised \$22,000 and provided more than 1,400 meals for those in need in Scranton since the program's launch on March 20**. The initiative is led by the University, Scranton Tomorrow and Friends of the Poor, accepting donations that families then use to purchase meals at participating local restaurants. Other cities around the country, including Athens, Ohio, are looking to mirror the effort.
- **The University donated medical supplies to three area hospitals** including more than 7,000 surgical masks, 15,000 examination gloves, 300 personal protection equipment items, and more than 8,000 additional miscellaneous items. The items were collected from the Leahy Clinic, the Departments of Nursing and physical therapy as well as biology and chemistry laboratories. **The University's Panuska College of Professional Studies also lent three ventilators.**

- PCPS has begun publishing a **“PCPS Call to Care”** e-newsletter every two weeks to highlight positive actions of PCPS students, faculty and staff during his pandemic. The [first newsletter](#) is being sent today, April 3.
- **The Technology Support Center and the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTLE) continue to be available to support faculty and students for D2L.** In addition to contacting the Technology Support Center ([techsupport@scranton.edu](mailto:techsupport@scranton.edu)) and the CTLE ([d2lsupport@scranton.edu](mailto:d2lsupport@scranton.edu)), a new widget on the home page in D2L is available that provides 24x7 chat and email support directly from D2L.
- **Zoom Support Workshops are continuing on Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.** The sessions provide individualized assistance with Zoom, allowing a convenient way to ask questions or to get a brief refresher on Zoom features. To enter a support session, please log into the [my.scranton.edu](http://my.scranton.edu) portal and click on the Zoom Support Workshop link.
- **University employees wishing to use office technology equipment remotely are reminded that most computers are not configured properly to work outside of the campus network.** Those needing assistance should contact the Technology Support Center to have a ticket entered so that we can ensure the configuration of the equipment will work remotely.

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