

## Coronavirus Update: March 17, 2020

### A. Opening

- As the SUM Board of Directors and the Executive Team continue to monitor the rapidly evolving situation around the coronavirus (COVID-19) our first thought is for the safety and well being of everyone a part of the SUM family, from administrators to staff, to students, to cohorts, churches, and to our contributors. We recognize that regulations will vary from state to state and country to country. We are doing our best to allow flexibility for each cohort and Visionary Leader to respond to their on the ground situation appropriately.

### B. Steps: As we address the Coronavirus I would like to make you aware of the steps we are taking to serve you and to keep you informed

#### 1. Personal Welfare

- **No Joke.** Coronavirus should be taken seriously by all.
- **Spreads:** Primarily through person to person contact by cough, sneeze, or kiss.
- **Symptoms:** Mild to severe fever, cough, or shortness of breath.
- **If you have symptoms:** call your doctor or health professional and inform them of your symptoms.
- **Recommendations from Health leaders:**
  - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Especially after going to the restroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - If soap and water aren't available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
  - Avoid close contact with people who are sick – practice social distancing.
  - Stay home when sick. This includes staying home from work, school, errands, and travel.
  - Cover a cough or sneeze with a tissue, throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
  - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces like phones, keyboards, and doorknobs.
  - Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, drink lots of fluids, and eat nutritious food.
- **Information:** Be careful where you receive your information concerning the coronavirus. There are plenty of sources disseminating false information.
- **CDC.** The most up-to-date information can be found by going to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) webpage. <https://www.cdc.gov>

#### 2. SUM – Departments

### Staff

- The SUM online system easily adapts for situations such as this.
- In light of this, some of the administration will be allowed to work remotely for the next

two weeks.

- We have ensured all systems will fully function for uninterrupted service.

## Academics

- **Spring classes** will begin on time March 30th. Cohorts will evaluate their onsite requirements as needed based upon their church situation and may choose to allow students to study from home.
- **Registration** is underway for the Spring trimester and all students are encouraged to finalize their registration if they have not done so already.

## Student Life & Ministry

- **Student Life:** Chapel - Visionary Leaders can be flexible in **using technology** to provide a corporate chapel experience and can choose whether to meet in person or remotely. Additionally, SUM will continue to post chapel services including the Chancellor chapel.
- **Student Ministry:** Cohorts will assign **practicums** to students to strategically meet the needs and challenges of their community. **Internship** professors and Cohort Advisors will work with students to tailor projects to the current situation.

## Financial

- The **Financial Aid** office is now processing student aid for the Fall. If you have not yet submitted your FAFSA, please do so now.
- **Student Refund** checks will be processed without delay.
- Students experiencing **financial hardship** should contact the business office.

## Enrollment

- **Fall Enrollment:** The Enrollment Department is continuing to accept applications for the Fall.
- **New Cohorts:** We are excited to announce that several new cohorts will be joining us in the Fall.

## C. Closing

### Isaiah 41:10 (KJV)

“Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”

#### 1. Fear & Faith

- **Contagious.** Fear is contagious especially during crisis moments but so is faith!
- **Crisis Moment.** You are the called of God – I came to the Lord in a Crisis moment. It is when the temporal fades and the eternal come into view. When all of what people trust crashes in around them, whether it is themselves, their health, jobs, family, friends, government, etc. Be the witness God has called you to be!
- **Fear Not.** No exhortation was uttered more frequently by our Lord than the command “Fear Not.” He said it to his disciples and his followers as though it was a greeting – like hello. God is in control. Nothing the devil does catches God by surprise.

## 2. Minister

- **Minister.** So proud of the way each of you ministered at Mardi Gras. You leaned into your calling, and God used you powerfully! In this moment lean in once again and allow God to minister through you, use wisdom and stay safe!

- **Blog and Forum.** We have created an online blog and forum for the SUM community to interact through shared encouragement, updates, and prayer. SUM staff will monitor the group and pray.

[www.sum.edu/blog](http://www.sum.edu/blog)

[www.sum.edu/forum](http://www.sum.edu/forum)

**Prayer by Dr. Gary Munson, Chief Academic Officer**

**To Contact SUM:**

**Main Office (916)306-1628**

**Selections:** Academics (1), Admissions (2), Business Office (3), EDH Campus Pastor (4), Cohort Development (5), Financial Aid (6), Registrar (7), Espanol (8), Student Life & Ministry (9), Other Option (0)