



12 March 2020

*Important Communication Regarding Grace Christian University's
Response to the COVID19 Crisis.*

Dear Students and Families:

In our desire to lead by faith and wisdom, the leadership of Grace Christian University is seeking to protect our students and limit the disruption as much as possible to their continued studies. There are no known cases of the virus on campus, and our actions seek to further keep our students and campus in this condition if at all possible. We trust God in every situation, including this one, recognizing that we cannot control all the factors involved, and yet we desire to be good stewards of what we can do, and to those who are presently entrusted to us. We do not seek to abdicate this by sending our students away to places where sickness is already widespread, but we desire to take every precaution to prevent illness and disruption to the community life on campus and for local commuter students. It is with this in mind, that we are prayerfully taking the following actions in response to the widespread concern regarding the COVID-19:

- Classes are cancelled for tomorrow – Friday the 13th of March.
- Classes will continue on Monday, but all classes will be moved to an online format and students should communicate with instructors in all classes via email, and Blackboard - our Learning Platform for ongoing instructions for assignments and possible video links, etc.
- Student Residence Halls will remain open, and all precautions for sanitation and maintaining a germ-free environment will be taken. Students are encouraged to also take necessary precautions.
- The Dining Room, Library, and Student Commons will all remain open as well as all offices and classrooms for students to utilize as places to do their schoolwork.
- Student employment will continue. Services to increase cleanliness begin today, and will continue Friday and Saturday of this week.
- Chapels will not take place on campus until classes resume. Chapel fines will not be assessed for Spring 2020.
- School sponsored activities and social activities involving a large number of people are discouraged. The University cautions against meetings involving new groups or inviting others to campus.
- University faculty and staff will continue to work both on campus and remotely, and will be reachable for assistance.

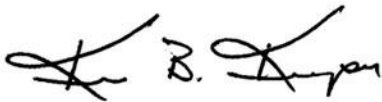
- Students who desire to leave the campus to go home will be allowed to do so. A form will be provided for students to indicate where they are going, so their location can be compared to areas susceptible to the virus spread.
- All present online and graduate online students will continue with their education without interruption, and are encouraged to personally follow the [Center for Disease Control's](#) guidelines for preventative health care.
- Student counseling/assistance for students dealing with increased anxiety due to the current situation is available through our Student Affairs Office.
- March 17th – Academic Advising for on campus students will continue, and students are welcome to meet electronically, by phone, or may meet in person if both parties are comfortable.
- The Aldrich Athletic Center will remain open and may be used by students and staff. The Fitness Center will be closed until appropriate sanitation supplies are procured.
- New handshake is “elbow bump” on campus without any implied loss of friendliness.
- Outdoor athletic workouts and practices will be handled on an individual basis.
- Updates can be read at www.gracechristian.edu/coronavirus

We apologize for any inconvenience caused by these actions, but it is our goal to care for the health and welfare of our students, faculty and staff.

We will all continue to work, to educate, to feed, and to house all of our students during this time - just by alternate methods, so it would seem obvious, nevertheless, I will directly answer the cost issue: Grace Christian University has no intention to reduce or refund any student bills during this time. Rather, the University will absorb all additional costs in order to keep our students as safe as possible and continue classes towards completion, no matter how challenging it may be.

Please pray for those suffering from this virus, for God's safety for every person, and for proactive wisdom and faith in God for all things!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken B. Kemper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and "B".

Ken Bruce Kemper
President