



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

March 10, 2020

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLORS/PROVOSTS

Dear Colleagues:

In light of the ongoing developments with COVID-19 (coronavirus) and the University's coordinated efforts to protect student and employee health and safety, I'm writing to inform you of my decision to suspend the spring 2020 academic quarter at the UC Washington Program (UCDC). Additionally, I have decided to suspend the remainder of the spring semester as of March 20, 2020. Note that winter quarter students will be unaffected, as they are returning to their home campuses on March 14, 2020. In reaching my decision, I have consulted with Executive Director Helen Shapiro and her staff as well as Vice Provost Susan Carlson. President Napolitano and the Chancellors have also been consulted and are aware of this plan. UCDC's Governing Council Chair David Marshall and the Academic Advisory Committee's chair Matt Beckmann have also been involved in the discussions that have led to the decision.

This decision will undoubtedly disappoint undergraduate students who are currently attending or who have already committed to joining the program in spring quarter, but the health and safety of our students is our priority. The decision is based on CDC advisories and input from the Management Review Team convened at the Office of the President. Identification of recent cases of the COVID-19 virus in Washington, DC and surrounding communities serves as a caution. Although UCDC's student population is not at high risk (unless there are underlying health conditions), should a student test positive, we have limited ability to isolate that individual or to quarantine others, as needed.

I anticipate there will be significant campus impact with the quarter students having to unexpectedly relocate to campus for the spring 2020 term. Staff at UCDC will be working directly with UCDC campus coordinators to identify ways to lessen the impact of reabsorbing students into local campus enrollment.

For semester students currently enrolled at UCDC and completing their internships, we will be working with our campus colleagues to determine appropriate academic credit for internships and possible alternative options for online instruction. UCDC Executive Director Helen Shapiro and her team as well as colleagues at the Office of the President will be working to determine the appropriate next steps, including arrangement of return travel to California for these semester students.

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Director Shapiro will be communicating with students directly. In the coming weeks, we will provide you with updates on the management of operations at UCDC. Please contact me, Executive Director Shapiro, or Vice Provost Carlson with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "M".

Michael T. Brown, Ph.D.
Provost and
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

cc: Vice Provost Carlson
Executive Director Shapiro