



STAKEHOLDER UPDATE

May 28, 2020

A status update on Northern Pennsylvania Regional College, a two-year associate degree-granting institution supported by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. NPRC proudly serves students in Cameron, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, McKean, Potter, Warren, and Venango Counties.

History in the Making

The college has much to celebrate annually in the month of May. May 25, 2020 recognized the third year of its existence in its current state, and May 28, 2020 marked its one-year anniversary of independence from Gannon University

New Hires

NPRC is happy to announce several new hires (some replacements) to the college as we prepare for Academic Year 2020/2021. Please join me in welcoming the following:

- Rachel Phillips, Financial Aid Coordinator, Warren administrative offices
- Juliet Hilburn, Student Success Specialist, Crawford, Forest & Venango counties
- Cory Newcombe, Student Success Specialist, Elk and Cameron counties
- Tatyana Abreu, Student Success Specialist, Erie county
- Marquis McBride, Student Success Specialist, Erie county
- Joanna Elletson, Administrative Assistant to the VP Academic and Student Affairs, Warren administrative offices
- Jennifer Rossey, Administrative Assistant to the VP of Finance & Administration and the VP of Advancement and Engagement, Warren administrative offices

We also welcome Dr. Eileen Goodling as Director of Career Services. Eileen will work in Academic and Student Affairs and comes to us from Jamestown Community College, where she retired as VP for Student Affairs. She brings a wealth of experience that will help us develop a sound career services program.

And a goodbye... A special thank you and best wishes to Jeanne Morley, Student Success Specialist, McKean & Potter counties as she leaves the college at the end of July to begin a position at IU 9.

Fall Class Delivery

As the Commonwealth and the Nation continue to make progress through the pandemic, NPRC's leadership has looked to the fall semester and how best to offer classes. Should NPRC return to site-based instruction or continue for Fall with remote learning?

Based on information from the World Health Organization, the CDC, and other public health and

infectious disease specialists, it seems inevitable that we will see a resurgence of infection in the fall semester. When that may occur is difficult to predict. However, we need to plan for the Fall with the consideration of everyone's health and wellbeing at the forefront.

It was challenging for everyone, students, faculty, and staff, to make the abrupt change to remote delivery in March. We all had our routines in place when they were suddenly upended, which added additional stress to an already distressing situation. While that disruption was unavoidable, the college needs to manage its operations in a way that reduces stress as much as possible, while at the same time offering the best possible instruction to our students.

That said, the college will continue to offer classes remotely in the fall 2020 semester. Making this decision now allows the faculty time to prepare their courses with remote delivery in mind. It also provides students with a clear understanding of what to expect and for us all to know how we will be operating throughout the semester so we can avoid the disruption that we all experienced in March.

A decision about class delivery in the spring 2021 semester will be made no later by the beginning of November. Again, we will make the decision several months in advance to allow time for faculty and students to prepare their classes and schedules.

These past few months have been trying times for all of us. However, due in large part to our usual delivery method combined with hard work and dedication from our partners in county governments, school districts, Community Education Centers and Career and Technical Centers, we have learned that it is possible to operate the college and continue to accomplish our goals even though everyone is working remotely. We will continue to learn from our experiences and use that knowledge to propel the college to an even greater future. We at NPRC are grateful for your ongoing commitment to the college to keep our momentum moving forward and, in the process, demonstrating our shared mission of service to our communities.

NPRC's [summer schedule](#) includes over 25 different academic courses offered at 28 locations across the nine-county service area:

[Workforce development classes](#) are offered in Elk, Erie, and Warren counties in Commercial Truck Driving, Powder Metal, Emergency Medical Responder, and Communication Linework