



TO: Faculty, Staff, Students, and Stakeholders

FROM: NPRC Administration

DATE: March 4, 2021

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update - Summer 2021 Instructional Delivery

It is that time of the semester to determine how classes will be offered in the summer semester. During this past year we have been following the recommendations from the CDC, Dr. Fauci, and other public health professionals. While the major surge of cases during the winter seems to be subsiding a bit, the vaccine rollout is just beginning and there are growing concerns about the emergence of new viral variants, some of which are more contagious and cause more severe illness. As we did in the summer and fall semesters, we are placing everyone's health and wellbeing at the forefront of this decision.

Therefore, the college will continue to offer most classes remotely in the summer semester. Special considerations will be made on an individual basis for those who are unable to participate in courses from their home. Making this decision now allows the faculty time to prepare their courses with remote delivery in mind, provides students with a clear understanding of what to expect, and for all of us to have some small piece of predictability in these unpredictable times. For those programs and classes where in-person training is required, and for students whose internet access is unable to fully support their classroom experience some onsite classes will be provided. In those cases, we will continue to follow the recommendations of the College's Covid task force.

A decision about class delivery for the fall semester will be made no later than the end of May. Again, we will decide several months in advance to allow time for faculty and students to prepare their classes and schedules and consider public health guidelines and recommendations in our decision.

This has been a difficult winter for many and we mourn the loss of so many members of our communities. It has been almost a year since the college first moved to remote delivery and I am proud to say that we have managed the transitions well despite being in our first year of independent course delivery. I hope you have found moments of enjoyment – my family has discovered charades – to keep going. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the college as we continue to provide quality education for our students and support our communities. Warmer weather is coming and I look forward to the time when we can safely gather.