



CALIFORNIA INDIAN NATIONS COLLEGE

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3/11/2020

Dear CINC Community,

This notification comes to you with great concern for your health and well-being, but also for your continued success in your educational endeavors. Given the uncertainty of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), CINC is taking the precautionary measures as directed by our supporting institutions College of the Desert (COD) and the University California, Riverside (UCR).

Yesterday we received notification that UCR is cancelling all classes until April 3, 2020. As such, we are restricted from conducting classes at the UCR Palm Desert Center until that time.

As students and faculty, most of you will know that we are in this middle of the seventh week of instruction with more than nine weeks left in the semester. While the time of closure works with UCR's quarter system, CINC (being on a semester system) is impacted to a greater extent. Therefore, please know that the CINC administrative team is working on continuing classes through temporary, remote methods. This will avoid a full disruption and allow our students to attend class at other sites or via electronic methods.

Please know that CINC will adhere to the instruction of our partnering institutions and will continue to keep our community informed. We are joining with COD to ensure that students are able to finish their courses and receive full credit upon their successful completion. We ask that everyone keep informed and do not hesitate to reach out to our office at (760) 834-0584 for information.

Academic Instruction:

Instructors are to prepare to adjust their course practices in anticipation of having to transfer their courses online.

The Academic Affairs Division will discuss and plan the delivery of mid-terms; and will also plan for coursework after the April 3rd date should the closure be extended. They will also keep instructors and students apprised of any changes from College of the Desert.

Administrative & Academic Staff

The office will be staffed each day with a maximum of three individuals. We have received and will adhere to the following instructions from COD and UCR:



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- **Campus Visits (15 people or more):** Cancellation or postponement of non-essential visits to campus by groups of more than 15 people. This would include, for example, campus tours and other events that bring visitors to campus.
- **All Other Visits (15 people or less):** These visits should be conducted online or via teleconference.

ADDITIONAL MEASURES from UCR – SOCIAL DISTANCING AND HYGIENE

To prevent infection, we recommend adhering to the following social distancing practices

- **Vulnerable populations should limit outings and not attend large gatherings.** Vulnerable populations are people 60 years of age and older; and people with health conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, kidney disease, and weakened immune systems.
- **If you are sick, stay home.** Do not come to school or work, travel, or participate in large gatherings.
- **If you have flu-like symptoms or suspect that you may have been exposed to COVID-19:** Students should contact [Student Health Services](#) or their primary care physician. Staff and faculty should their primary care physician, and UCR Health will be providing additional resources soon for all UCR employees.
- **Important reminders regarding hygiene:** (1) regularly wash your hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, (2) cover your mouth with your elbow when you cough or sneeze, and (3) clean and disinfect surfaces often.

If you think you have been exposed to coronavirus, contact your health care provider immediately.

The California Department of Public Health does not recommend the use of masks for general prevention and says that handwashing provides better protection from infectious diseases.

For more information please visit College of the Desert's Student Health and Wellness website where there are links to the Centers for Disease Control, California Department of Public Health and Riverside County Public Health.

Please understand that the campus is **not** closing, we are merely paring back with limited staff in the office while the remaining staff will be working remotely. We understand the implementation of such changes will impact our community with great challenges and disruption; and we truly appreciate your cooperation, patience, and understanding. CINC will continue to adhere to any precautionary measures set forth by COD and/or UCR and we will remain available via telephone and email for our students, faculty, and staff.



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We ask that you continue to stay informed and up-to-date, we will post regular updates on our website and through our social media outlets; but please feel free to reach out to our office if you need any guidance or assistance. Please know that we are truly thankful for **your** efforts to continue on your educational journey and we are grateful for the faculty and staff who are diligently working to ensure this disruption is as minimum as possible. Finally, do not stop your studies! Your courses will continue, even if in an alternative fashion.

Sincerely,

Celeste R. Townsend
President & CEO

T. Robert Przeklasa
Executive Vice President & Chief Academic Officer

Iselda Salgado
Executive Director Student Affairs & Student Services