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Dear Staff and Faculty,

Westminster College's COVID-19 Task Force has carefully evaluated federal and state return-to-work guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Chaired by Dr. Kasi Lacey, our COVID-19 Task Force has constructed an extensive campus-specific return-to-work plan that will officially begin implementation on **Monday, May 18, 2020**.

This slight delay from the statewide plan to reopen Missouri businesses in phases on May 4 allows our campus to ease slowly back into a few essential operations — with recommended modifications — while also taking into account a variety of situations, including employee health conditions, age, potential lack of childcare availability, and other personal factors. In many instances, work will continue remotely. Under Dr. Lacey's supervision, our COVID-19 Task Force is meeting with supervisors from each area of campus to develop a plan that addresses the departmental and individual needs.

Your supervisors will be communicating with you soon regarding your individual work needs. In the meantime, I want to reassure you that we are taking extra measures to ensure campus building readiness. Our COVID-19 Task Force has developed strict policies for controlling access to all buildings and has developed a solid social-distancing plan. In addition, new campus cleaning policies have been implemented. All measures taken follow the latest county, state, and federal health and safety recommendations.

With respect to this difficult, unprecedented time worldwide, particularly in higher education, I would like take this opportunity to summarize a few important points regarding campus activity. First, all courses will remain online through the end of the spring and summer semesters. Second, faculty will continue teaching online and need not return to campus at this time. And third, camps, conferences, and other Westminster-sponsored events will be canceled through the end of the summer. Those events usher in the potential for a lack of social distancing and current unknowns regarding COVID-19.

Finally, I personally want to thank Dr. Lacey and the COVID-19 Task Force for their tireless efforts to ensure our well-being. The health and safety of the Blue Jay Nation is our utmost priority. As we look forward to the summer and prepare with hope for the upcoming Fall 2020 semester, I am confident that our COVID-19 Task Force will continue to evaluate national and statewide recommendations, faculty/staff needs, and the status of the virus in our area and nationwide. With their help, we will continue to navigate these uncharted waters together.

Please take care of yourselves, and I will see you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fletcher M. Lamkin'.

Fletcher M. Lamkin, Ph.D.
President of the College

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