

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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## MEMORANDUM

DATE:March 30, 2020TO:Campus CommunityFROM:Thomas A. Parham, Ph.D.President

Thomas Packs

SUBJECT: COVID-19 UPDATE: Limiting access to our physical campus

Dear campus community,

Throughout the COVID-19 health crisis, the safety and well-being of the Toro community has been our main priority. We must continue to protect each other by supporting local, state, and national efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19, as we have done thus far with all the adjustments made to sustain some campus operations and provide essential services. However, even those are now changing.

Consequently, in consultation with the Chancellor's Office and based on current public health data, we are now taking added measures to reduce the number of people coming to campus.

Until further notice, the Toro Computer Lab, Toro Food Pantry, and services within the Loker Student Union are closed. In addition, campus facilities that are not in use or essential will be locked and remain so. However, please understand that although we are limiting access to our physical campus, the university remains operational, with instruction continuing in a virtual environment, and student services and ongoing business conducted via alternative means, where possible.

We fully understand the services provided by the lab, pantry, and union are vital to our campus community, and we are actively looking at different delivery methods to ensure that those most in need of food and technology are not further disadvantaged during this health crisis.

One way we can support students who have been using the computer lab is through our Technology Loaner Program, which offers computer and mobile hotspot devices for checkout. We are currently developing a method for distributing hardware while maintaining appropriate distancing recommendations, and will have a system in place shortly. Interested students should visit <u>techloaner.csudh.edu</u> for more information. For food pantry clients, our Basic Needs program is working hard to explore alternatives. In the meantime, numerous community resources are available on <a href="http://www.csudh.edu/student-support/food-shelter/food-resources">www.csudh.edu/student-support/food-shelter/food-resources</a>.

The decision to close these student services was not made lightly. Their importance to our students is the very reason that they have remained open on campus for so long after many other services have been moved off campus, and/or closed. However, in light of the continuing seriousness of the COVID-19 outbreak, we have been advised to make this difficult decision.

We will continue to provide updates on this situation as it develops, and will provide additional resources for affected students as soon as they become available.

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## ADDITIONAL UPDATES

With federal stay-at-home guidelines extended until April 30, the university will move forward with the following plans for summer:

- CSUDH's summer sessions will be offered using alternative instruction modes of delivery.
- Our Academic Affairs and Student Affairs teams will work on a transition strategy to support our fall 2020 incoming class.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding, and let us continue to do all we can to keep ourselves and our community safe and healthy!

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Parham, Ph.D. President