

Letter from VPAA Karen Wirth on Academic Continuity for Faculty

Hello Faculty,

You recently received [a message from the President](#) notifying everyone that starting March 16 all classes will be postponed through Sunday, March 29. While students are on break from on-campus classes for the next two weeks, faculty will use the time from March 23-27 to prepare for alternative methods of delivering curriculum. Many colleges are taking advantage of their spring breaks as an opportunity to plan and delve deeper into the possibilities of distance and alternative learning. What does this mean for you? Our aims are to stay calm, be safe, make good decisions, and help each other through this evolving situation. Please be assured that we are here to help you. We are all working with this changing landscape in real time.

You are being given an extended period to make sure you are ready to move your class to remote delivery in case we need to move to alternate teaching methods.

We are not asking you to design an online class on short notice. We want to work with you on how you can deliver class content and provide a learning experience for your students. It is not going to be the same as your face-to-face classes.

So, please take a breath, brew some tea, sit in your favorite chair, and carefully review the attached documents.

Additionally, if you are certain you do not have a device that will allow you do the work described in the Academic Continuity Checklist, please contact your department chair. We will do our best to provide you with a machine for home use. Due to the limits of the tech department's inventory, these will not be the newest models.

If you are uncertain if your home equipment has the capability to perform the work as described in the attached document, please contact the Help Desk for consultation and guidance. helpdesk@mcad.edu. If you are assigned MCAD equipment during this extended spring break period, pick up hours at the Help Desk will be Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00. You will keep the equipment until we have an all-clear on this situation. You will be contacted when the equipment needs to be returned.

Thank you for your attention on this, and for working through it together. We are an exemplary learning community, and together I am sure we will do right.

Karen

Attached:

- [COVID-19 Planning: Faculty FAQ](#)
- [Academic Contingency Checklist](#)
- mcad.edu/COVID19

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