

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: March 24, 2020

TO: Campus Community

FROM: Thomas A. Parham, Ph.D.
President

SUBJECT: COVID-19 UPDATE

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Parham".

Campus Community,

As we end day two of alternative forms of instruction and service delivery, I am thankful for and optimistic about the planning our faculty and staff have done during last week's pause. Their efforts and initiative have put us in a good position to finish the spring semester strong. Please know that we will continue to assess our progress and address those issues that are proving less successful and that are within our immediate control to remediate.

As an example of how Toros are rising to this new reality, I would highlight the following:

- Our affinity centers and student support programs are continuing to provide services in a virtual space. I hear reports of group Zoom meetings and panels, Netflix watch parties, and other creative ways of engaging and supporting students, all while they support academic progress.
- We also continue to deliver a few key services on campus, such as the Toro Computer Lab and our health center. We will continue to adjust these services to meet changing demands as they arise.
 - On a special note, tomorrow (Wednesday, March 25) is the first day that our food pantry will be distributing bags of food to students in need. I applaud the effort being made to continue to provide this essential service to our students.

I encourage everyone to visit the csudh.edu/alert page often, as information continues to be added daily regarding service hours, technology resources, and responses to frequently asked questions.

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Undoubtedly, the state budget and that of this campus will be impacted by the COVID-19 health crisis. Consequently, we need to engage in planning and consider strategies that will better positioned this university to manage budget shortfalls and reductions should they occur. Thus, in response to a memo issued today by the Chancellor's Office advising of a system wide "hiring chill," prudence demands that we, as a campus, must exercise extreme caution in moving forward on any searches that have not been finalized. I know this news may be a surprise to many of you, but we must prepare, out of a sense of urgency and self-reliance, for a full range of possibilities regarding our fiscal health and strength. Expect to receive more guidance from your divisional vice president or academic dean in the days and weeks ahead.

Hang in there; together, we will get through this.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Parham, Ph.D.
President