



Criswell Community:

Allow me a few sentences to explain the rationale behind the actions we are taking regarding Coronavirus. Many schools are extending their spring break an extra week. When they do resume studies, many are moving their coursework off campus, mostly online. Although less publicized, there are many schools which are not taking those actions. We are making judgments on the information available day to day about how to proceed, but are not taking either of those steps currently. Underlying each of these decisions and others are several things you should know.

First, if you have any symptoms which might be related to Coronavirus, please let us know and absolutely do not come to campus. If you have reason to believe you may have been exposed to Coronavirus, please let us know and absolutely do not come to campus. We will work with you to make sure you are able to complete whatever obligations you have—whether in class as a student or in your work as an employee—without coming to campus. This step puts a great deal of responsibility on you to help us keep our campus safe.

Second, we believe any step which becomes necessary to promote the safety of our students and staff is worth doing. When we have information indicating it would be unsafe for all students to come to campus, we will close the campus to students. The same is true for staff. The same will be true if we receive a request from public authorities that we close the campus in the public interest. But the public authorities (including the Dallas County Commissioners Court declaration) have made it clear that those steps are not needed now.

Third, because we are committed to being fully prepared in either event described above, we are already creating the administrative and academic steps to take in order to move any portion or the rest of the semester off campus should the need arise.

Please remain attentive to announcements from the college. As the situation changes, so will our response.

But more importantly, remember that our communities—both within the college, and within which the college exists—need to see reasoned, useful, well-planned responses to the Coronavirus, but also that life is not at a standstill. There are still people to serve and studies to complete. What we contribute to our society when things are challenging makes us ambassadors and problem-solvers.

May the Lord protect you, and may He bless those He has sent us to serve,

Barry Creamer, President