Dear CSU Pueblo Campus Community—

Today marks one month since we began working remotely at CSU Pueblo. Together, we have already navigated many unexpected challenges, and I am grateful for your agility and persistence during these uncertain times.

Today’s message is designed to provide you with important just-in-time campus updates and opportunities for you to “connect the pieces.” As always, you can find additional information about safety, educational resources, and general operations online at CSU Pueblo COVID-19.

JUST-IN-TIME INFORMATION

THE CARES ACT

The 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was passed by Congress and signed into law on March 27th, 2020. This $2 trillion federal relief package provides funds to ensure the public health and mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19. Of these funds, more than $14 billion has been committed to the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). Based on the US Department of Education’s eligibility calculation, CSU Pueblo will be allocated $3.96 million, of which $1.97 million must be provided directly to students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. The remainder of the federal allocation will be distributed to campus to mitigate some of the financial impact of the pandemic to university operations. CSU Pueblo leadership is working closely with the state and our CSU System in order to create policies and an implementation plan for the distribution and use of these limited funds.

SUMMER CLASSES, CAMPUS EVENTS, AND REMOTE WORK

As a reminder, all previously scheduled face-to-face (F2F) courses this summer will be delivered via online or distance learning. Exceptions may be made for some in-person classroom or laboratory education, for fewer than 10 students per classroom or lab, in designated “medical training” fields only, following direction provided to us by the Colorado Department of Higher Education and the Office of the Governor.

Additionally, as I announced on April 3, employees will continue to work remotely — through June 30 — and all campus events are canceled until July 1. As always, these dates may be shortened, extended, or adapted as new information becomes available.

HUMAN RESOURCES

1. The current deadline for CSU Pueblo’s Annual Performance Review process for Administrative Professional and Classified Staff is April 30. In partnership with Human Resources and stakeholder groups, campus leadership is developing a plan to extend this deadline by a few months. More information will be forthcoming.

2. The mandatory Sexual Harassment and FERPA training has launched and should be completed by all employees on or before May 15, 2020. You should have received an email directing you to your online portal. If you have any questions, please contact CSU Pueblo Human Resources at 719-549-2441 or at hr@csupueblo.edu. If you need other health and wellness support, visit HR online.
3. If you have new resource needs for a university computer or wifi hot spot, a check-out procedure and pick-up schedule has been established. Please complete the Remote Faculty-Staff Technology Form online at https://bit.ly/RemoteFacStaffTech.

4. Your Human Resources team is proud to announce a virtual “Friday Fun Hour,” each Friday from 4-5pm, beginning today. These social events will offer employees an opportunity to connect with colleagues from around campus, share “Tales From Home,” and showcase an element (or two!) of your remote work.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

1. CSU Pueblo has been awarded a five-year, $1.8 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant. This grant is part of the organization’s Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Program. The award, under the leadership of project directors Dr. Roberto Mejias and Dr. Margie Massey, aims to use technology and cybersecurity as catalysts to increase the STEM graduation rates for Hispanic and other underrepresented student groups.

2. On April 15, 2020, the Colorado Department of Higher Education approved CSU Pueblo’s new Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree in Health Science and Administration. This is the first applied degree in the CSU System and is open to aspiring students who currently hold an associates or applied associates degree in a healthcare, allied health, or public health fields as a competition degree program.

3. CSU Pueblo senior, Morgan Mohalla, was recently named the 2020 recipient of the Threlkeld Prize for Excellence. Named for the late Budge Threlkeld, the award is presented to a graduating senior who demonstrates excellence in academic and co-curricular activities as well as in service to the University and to the community, and will receive the first diploma at graduation in December. Mohalla will graduate *summa cum laude* with a bachelor of science in biology. He also is a veteran of the U.S. Army and served as a senior combat medic.

4. The restructuring of academic affairs, approved by the BOG in February 2020, will be effective on July 1, 2020. The restructuring is designed to enhance appeal of our academic programs while increasing efficiency and reducing long term administrative burden. Administrative appointments related to the restructuring will be announced on Monday, April 20. Restructuring will result in:
   - Moving the Automotive Industry Management Program to the HSB,
   - Forming a College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
   - Forming a College of Health, Education and Nursing that will be organized into three schools: School of Nursing, School of Education and School of Health Sciences and Human Movement

**CONNECTING THE PIECES**

In the coming weeks, we’ll be sharing detailed financial information for campus and providing each of you an opportunity to “connect the pieces” of our work through virtual leadership meetings and dedicated social hours each Friday afternoon at 4pm. Though there will be other campus wide meetings scheduled over the coming weeks, the next Presidential Open Office Hour will be on Thursday, May 20 from 4-5pm. Look for secure links to office hours and “Friday Fun Hours” in Monday’s Email Digest.

With sincere wishes for your continued health and safety,

Dr. Timothy Mottet
CSU Pueblo President