



“Our Finest Hour” April 27, 2020

Top of the morning to you all,

Looks to me like the “War Against Coronavirus” is taking a turn for the better. The Governor tweeted that the state’s plan for putting Missouri back to work incrementally will be released today. Greene County will follow suit circa mid-week. A number of IHEs have been publicizing plans for fall re-openings. Last week I urged the COVID-19 Core Executive Team to begin releasing MSU plans now, rather than waiting until mid-May or after the town hall meeting scheduled for May 20, 2020. As a result, you will begin seeing and hearing more about MSU’s plans for the fall 2020 semester as early as today and continuing throughout the week. This is all good news, gang.

I encourage all of us to be guardedly optimistic going forward as we begin hearing more and more about “reopening.” I am confident we will hear that reopening does not yet mean going back to business as usual. It will probably mean that guidelines will be incrementally relaxed over time. Most certainly, safety and economics will be considered, and personnel will not be placed in any situation in which they might feel uncomfortable. That is why I have asked department heads to consider faculty, staff, and student safety as we finalize fall course delivery and contingencies. It is also why we are continuing to market our programs vigorously. Rather than try to speculate here, let’s all listen carefully over the coming days. As you have questions, please send them to me.

The next Post will be out this afternoon. In the last section therein I mention the CAEP Accreditation Council’s meeting last Saturday. Drs. Tinkler and Craig represented the EPP very well via Zoom. Thanks to Barri for exceptional work on the Rejoinder and to Chris for his support. The MSU EPP will receive a written notification within 30 days, according to CAEP Guidelines. Will make that notification public as soon as I receive it.

Thanks for following the national, state, local, and University COVID-19 guidelines. Thanks for modeling professionalism, care, and concern so very well. Thanks for ensuring our students have every opportunity to be successful. I appreciate you and the work you do.

Keep Calm & Listen Carefully Over the Coming Days,

David