

Office of Student Affairs

March 15, 2020



UNIVERSITY OF
NEW ENGLAND

INNOVATION FOR A HEALTHIER PLANET

Dear Community Members,

As some of you may have heard by now, leadership at the University of New England has made the difficult decision to move the instruction of its undergraduate students (with the exception of advanced Nursing and advanced Dental Hygiene students) online. This decision was based on the best evidence available, as we can expect that the virus will continue to pose a major challenge for the foreseeable future. The situation is unfolding quickly and has now reached a point in which we have no choice but to make significant changes to our normal operations for the coming weeks.

The Campus Center will be closed, and all community memberships suspended, until further notice. While I recognize this will invoke disappointment for our community members, the decision was not made lightly.

In the meantime, we will do our best to help you maintain a wellness regimen at home by providing you with an opportunity to access exercise and wellness tip documents. No specialized equipment will be needed for you to engage in wellness activities! We will offer you ideas for exercise that can be completed from home and with items you likely already have (e.g. canned goods, bath towels, etc.). We will also be sure to provide you with updates, as they become available, regarding the point at which we can expect the facility to reopen.

We invite you to visit the University's website in order to learn more about our ongoing response to COVID-19. Community announcements are being shared regularly at the following web address: www.une.edu/alerts.

In the days and weeks ahead, we hope you will take advantage of the information we will share and that you will heed the guidelines provided by the CDC (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html). Wash your hands often, practice social distancing, and, among other measures, try to avoid contact with others who are sick. Recall, too, that social distancing should not mean isolation. Maintain contact with the important people in your life by making phone calls or using video chat tools like FaceTime or Skype. Spend time outside enjoying the fresh air, and do the things that help you to relax.

Until we can see you again,

Jen DeBurro

Dean of Students and Assistant Provost for Student Affairs