



March 3, 2021

Dear AU Miami Community,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

As you know, since November, we have been operating in the Covid-19 Phase 1 scenario, in which we have minimal staff on campus. At this time, I would like us to collectively look to move forward into Phase 2 and to provide you an update on the remainder of the Spring semester and how we can plan for the Summer 2021 semester. As of now, the plan is for students to finish out the current semester via remote instruction.

The Campus will move into Phase 2 on April 5, 2021. This will allow students to safely come onto campus by appointment only to access key services such as library, tutoring, etc. In addition, academic program directors will have two designated days a week to bring in students on campus as needed for labs, exams, doctoral project, or anything that requires a face-to-face meeting. Student and Service support personnel will be increased to two or three employees per department to be physically on campus. The Goodman Center will begin seeing clients in person for psychological testing on March 15th, and continue to operate using Telehealth for therapy clients until a phased reopening is safely established. It is anticipated that this process will begin at the beginning of the Summer 2021 semester. Though our staff will have more presence on campus, we will continue to provide all services remotely as well, for those not on campus.

In terms of planning for the Summer 2021 semester, we will continue to offer the bulk of our courses online and start to house some courses onsite. These will be selective courses determined by the faculty in conjunction with their academic program directors and based upon the need to provide face-to-face instruction and/or additional academic help. Students who are in these course(s) will be offered the option to physically be on campus or connect synchronously (live) via Blackboard Collaborate in the classroom. Faculty are encouraged to limit the number of students; these courses will be flip classrooms. Faculty will need to be face to face as well as on collaborate for those students that choose not to attend on campus. Additionally, our faculty are encouraged to continue to develop all their courses online and use a hybrid model as much as possible, limiting the amount of time necessary to be physically on campus.

During Phase 2, this process will be carried out responsibly and in compliance with the certifications established in the reopening orders that have been authorized by the government, OSHA and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). This process is also guided by the Albizu University COVID-19 Recovery Plan towards a New Normal and Exposure Control Guidelines which is available on our website www.albizuinfo.com. This transition requires a personal commitment from each community member to do their part in helping to limit the potential spread of COVID-19. Consistent with federal, state, and local guidelines, the following measures will be followed:

- COVID-19 awareness and precaution training.
- Wearing personal protection equipment at all times
- Daily temperature checks.
- All meetings to be held virtually.

Miami: 305-593-1223 2173 N.W. 99 Avenue, Doral, Florida 33172-2209 Albizu.edu



- New business hours:
 - Monday – Thursday 10:00am – 6:00pm
 - Friday – Work Remotely
- Two to three employees per department in alternating schedules; depending on department size, twice a week.
- Each community member (faculty, staff, and students) is expected to monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19 on a daily basis. Any individual who is symptomatic should not come to school or work and should contact their primary care provider.
- Students will continue with their internship/practicum pending sites that comply with CDC safety requirements. In some situations, Telehealth will be used to satisfy internship hours.

Phase 2 will take us well into the start of the Summer 2021 semester and during the course of this semester we will continue to assess the way forward to determine if we can in fact expand on the number of students, staff and faculty onsite. A new schedule will be sent out for the Summer semester. Our goal of moving to Phase 3, when we will relax restrictions and allow the majority of the courses back onsite is for the Fall 2021 semester. We will also allow students to use lounges, cafeteria and other facilities by appointment with mandatory social distancing.

Human Resources will conduct a refresher of the New Normal Training to all by March 22, 2021. In compliance with guidelines from the CDC, the University has been and will continue to implement enhanced cleaning and sanitizing protocols across campus. Classrooms, restrooms, and common areas will be cleaned and disinfected daily.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to provide the best teaching, learning, and working environments for our faculty, students, and staff. AU is committed to the health and well-being of all members of its community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tilokie Depoo".

Tilokie Depoo, Ph.D.
Chancellor