



A Message
from the **PRESIDENT**

Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'A. L. Jenkins', next to a silver and black fountain pen.

Dear Yellow Jacket Nation:

As the situation regarding the spread of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, continues to evolve, in conjunction with my senior administration team, I have made several decisions that I believe will help protect the health and wellbeing of our students, faculty and staff. While we have no reason to panic, there is every reason to take precautions.

First, next week's spring break for students will be extended through Tuesday, March 24, with classes resuming Wednesday, March 25. During the week of spring break, campus will be closed to all but essential personnel, and staff are being directed to work from home. Staff are to coordinate with their supervisors and respective vice presidents on assignments that can be worked on remotely. On Monday, March 23, campus will reopen for staff and faculty.

When classes resume on Wednesday, March 25, students who are ill should not attend class. Instead, send an immediate notification to the instructor via email or phone to discuss appropriate adjustments for course work completion. Faculty will make the appropriate adjustments for course content delivery, including the use of technology to allow students to participate in class discussions remotely, or to move courses to an online delivery method in the short-term, if possible. The University's Office of Academic Affairs has prepared information on technical support, course alternatives, and next steps to share with faculty. This modified delivery method for courses will remain in effect until at least April 13. Please note that regularly scheduled fully online courses will continue as usual.

At this time, until further notice, all official University business travel, and/or student related travel, has been suspended. This includes both domestic travel outside the state of West Virginia and international travel. If you have already made travel plans and need to cancel these arrangements, please refer to the travel guidelines provided by the University and Title III.

For those faculty or staff planning personal, non-university travel, it is highly recommended that you utilize extreme caution and judgement during your domestic/international travel, taking care to avoid travel to places identified by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as being high risk for COVID-19. Please understand that should you do so against the advice of the University, self-quarantine protocols and testing will be recommended before you are able to return to campus.

Beginning Sunday, March 15, and extending through Sunday, April 12, we are cancelling external events on campus, as well as student and organization activities that could draw a large crowd in order to limit the potential spread of the virus. At this time, normal operations should resume on April 13, but that will continue to be evaluated.

The University has established a webpage with more information about COVID-19 and I

encourage you to check it on a regular basis at www.wvstateu.edu/coronavirus. In addition, please continue to monitor your University email account for updates, and if you have not already done so, enroll in the University's emergency notification system in [MyState](#).

As this is an evolving situation I will provide further updates as they are available.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony L. Jenkins".

Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.
President

West Virginia State University | jbaile19@wvstateu.edu | <http://www.wvstateu.edu>
P.O. Box 399
Institute, WV 25112-1000

wvstateu.edu