

Subject: [col-sw-emp-staff-appt] COVID-19: Updates and Additional GSSW Resources
Date: Friday, March 13, 2020 at 5:05:23 PM Mountain Daylight Time
From: Amanda Moore McBride
To: Elizabeth O'Hara
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GSSW faculty and staff,

I am so proud of our community. Our faculty and staff across academics, operations, and research have pulled together to plan, stay measured, and support one another. While the future remains unknown, I know that we have done the best we can to prepare and respond, and will continue to do so.

The following are a range of updates by our three goal areas. Please take note of the additional resources, and **read this email in its entirety.**

Our marketing and communications team has propped up an [internal web page](#) as a centralized resource for our GSSW only. It includes all prior GSSW communications related to COVID-19 across the administration, direct links to documents and pages, and lists additional resources. This and the [main DU page](#) will hold the majority of information pertaining to our work environment during this public health crisis. Please bookmark [this internal web page](#) for future reference.

These are staggeringly unprecedented times. Your health and mental health are important to me. Please do not just stay online all day. Set boundaries, stop scrolling, unplug; take hikes, meditate, watch movies, read books. Please be gentle with yourself and others as we walk into this new frontier together.

Onward,
Amanda

Follow Public Health Science

Building access:

The DU campus remains open. Craig Hall and the REC are card access only effective today. If you come to campus, please bring your ID.

Events and meetings:

Please feel free to reschedule all upcoming face-to-face meetings connected to work to be virtual meetings.

Continuity of Work and Learning

Working remotely:

The university's 3/13/20 email covered HR processes connected to leave. I maintain that GSSW supervisors be flexible with all employees, and show nimbleness and compassion related to work and benefits. We are in this together for the long haul, not just during the crisis period. Let's please exercise that long-term perspective, and protect employees from future shocks.

Work-study and other student workers:

Our work-study and other student workers depend on their work with us for their livelihood. If you host a student worker, please develop work for them to do remotely. If you do not have work for them to do, please let the GSSW Academic Affairs team know by email GSSWAcademicAffairs@du.edu, so that we can link the students with projects that various departments have for them.

If you do not currently have a work-study or student worker but you have work that could be done remotely, please request this support through GSSWAcademicAffairs@du.edu or the routine [Faculty Support Survey](#). We are building a repository of projects.

Academic affairs office hours:

Our staff teams will maintain virtual office hours during this time. These sessions are designed for students

in mind, but are accessible to staff and faculty as well. Please visit the ["COVID-19" tab](#) on the [GSSW Student Resource Portal](#) for more details.

Field education office hours:

Just a reminder that students currently in Field should contact their GSSW Liaison. MSW@Denver Students in the placement process should contact their Placement Specialist. The field team is also hosting virtual office hours at the following times next week. Please feel free to join the [virtual office hours here](#).

- Monday, 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm (MT)
- Wednesday, 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm (MT)
- Friday, 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm (MT)

Bridge Project:

The Bridge Project follows the schedule of Denver Public Schools. As such, effective today, all Bridge sites are closed for at least the next three weeks. Phuong Pham has centered the kids and their families, and is communicating with them regarding the closure and available food access.

Individual Well-Being

Tips on working from home:

There have been many conversations about managing work from home, including working from home with kids. We would like to collect and share out to our community ideas and resources (e.g., video chat "dates" with grandparents, using the du library to check out ebooks with less wait time than the public library, etc.). Please email your ideas and resources to Associate Dean Jennifer "Jazz Hands" Bellamy (jennifer.bellamy@du.edu), who will create a repository of ideas for our internal page.

Engaging in projects and support:

Some of you have inquired about special projects or community service support that the school and our direct community members may need in this time of crisis. We are beginning to collect projects like this, and will be in touch soon about potential opportunities. For example, Associate Dean Jennifer Bellamy is working with the provost's office on how we might expand mental health supports.

Support for students:

All degree-seeking students have free, 24/7 access to tele-mental health support through DU's "My SSP: Student Support Program." Please remind any students with whom you work that this resource is available to them. They can visit the ["Student Resource" tab](#) within the [GSSW Student Resource Portal](#) for more information and additional, program specific supports.

Virtual COTW Check-In:

The Executive Advisory Committee and I will host a virtual COTW voluntary check-in on **Monday, March 16 at 3pm**. Feel free to join us. This is a way for us to connect, answer questions, and hear ideas.

Questions and ideas:

Please text or call me anytime on my cell phone, 314-374-1182 or email me directly at amanda.mcbride@du.edu. The school is here to support you.

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