



Alcorn
Lorman • Natchez • Vicksburg

March 18, 2020

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As most are aware, the global coronavirus pandemic, COVID-19 is evolving and casting a wide shadow over normal activities in our state, the nation and world. Alcorn State University recognizes that these fast-unfolding events are creating concern and uncertainty for all of us and want you to know our first priority is the safety and well-being of our community and to the extent possible, the continuity of University operations. Alcorn remains open and is proactively and diligently working on efforts to safeguard our campuses and community. Currently, there are no known COVID-19 cases in southwest Mississippi or on any of Alcorn's campuses.

In consultation with and guidance from the Mississippi State Department of Health and Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, we join our sister universities in taking measures to slow down its spread. Right now, decisions are being made on a very nearly real-time basis, as leaders at the University continue to monitor developments. As such, we want to make you aware of the latest developments around this situation in relation to operations and some of the efforts we are taking. They include, but are not limited to:

- Suspending all university-supported, domestic and international travel for students, faculty and staff until further notice.
- Extending spring break for students and moving face-to-face classes to virtual/online delivery starting March 23rd.
- Screening students, faculty and staff who recently traveled domestically and internationally.
- Continued and increased sanitizing, disinfecting and deep-cleaning campus facilities, especially high-touch and high-traffic areas.
- Strongly encouraging students, faculty and staff to practice social distancing.
- Suspending or dramatically altering all events on our campuses involving more than 10 participants, effective March 16, thus limiting exposure to high-risk large groups.
- Following the lead of the SWAC and NCAA, announced the cancellation of all athletic competitions, recruiting and practices through the end of the academic year.
- Working with the National Alumni Association and Foundation to review postponing or cancelling scheduled in-person events. More information will be released.

We understand that some of the decisions the university makes may be uncomfortable and potentially disruptive to the normal routines and expectations of certain constituents. While elevating prudent safeguards for the health and safety of our campuses, we are also focused on maintaining a high-quality higher learning experience for Alcorn students to continue their progress towards degree completion.

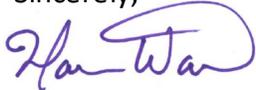
In our ongoing alumni and constituent engagement efforts and our philanthropic work to support the mission and priorities of Alcorn State University, we will remain sensitive to the current and evolving situation, while utilizing multi-mode communications to keep you updated and informed.

We understand that you may have more questions, so we will continue to update the University's dedicated website www.alcorn.edu/coronavirus, social media pages and official emails regarding changes and additional information. You can find official messages from President Nave and other helpful information in these locations.

Although this remains an uncertain time, be assured that the University and our affiliated entities will take every precaution necessary regarding this situation. We also stand ready to resume our normal programs and events when it is both safe and sensible to do so.

As always, we deeply value our relationship with all of you, and will keep you apprised of any new information. Thank you for your continued support of Alcorn State University as we work together to keep the health and safety of our community a top priority during this evolving situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Marcus D. Ward".

Marcus D. Ward '00
Vice President, Institutional Advancement
Executive Director, ASU Foundation, Inc.

xc: Felecia M. Nave, President
Janice Gibson, Director of Development and Alumni Affairs