



Office of the President

March 18, 2021

Daemen College
Students, Faculty and Staff

Dear Daemen Campus Community Members:

I hope that you are doing well and staying healthy as we head into some warmer weather. A number of national public health officials are warning that the United States may experience a major surge of COVID in the next three or four weeks. Several European countries have already returned to nationwide lockdowns.

We are urging each and every one of you to exercise great caution over the next month. Do not take any unnecessary risks with your own health and that of others. While the state may be lessening requirements, please do NOT assume that those apply to this campus community unless you hear it as an official Daemen COVID-19 response message.

Diligence and compliance are essential. Everyone must wear face coverings while on campus, except when eating, and even then, only while doing so. Observe capacity limits in classrooms, study lounges, lounges, and gatherings. We strongly encourage students to continue limiting gatherings as they have been and outdoor activities as those will be done safely and in accordance with best practices. Stay home if not feeling well, and notify the CHIP Center (chip@daemen.edu) immediately. Most importantly, be honest if sought out by contact tracing as good information will prevent an outbreak; bad information threatens individuals' health, safety, and their ability to remain at Daemen.

The good news is that one month into the spring semester and we are still managing incredibly well as a community when it comes to our COVID response. Our COVID dashboard reflects a positivity rate of well under half of one percent of our campus community while our overall vaccination numbers continue to climb. As of yesterday, over 12% of our Amherst campus community is completely vaccinated with another 100 or so people waiting for their second dose. These are positive signs.

We have made it this far; let's go all the way. We are strong because of our continued commitment together, and I am convinced that by continuing to stay vigilant, our success will continue. Please respect to protect

Cordially,

Gary A. Olson
President