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February 26, 2020

## Dear Coppin Community:

A correspondence from USM Chancellor Perman was sent to you via email, last month, regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and steps that were being taken to ensure that system institutions were informed and prepared to deal with the effects on the various campuses. Since then, I have participated in discussions, led by the USM, where we were provided with updates regarding the spread of the virus.

We have been informed that we should prepare for the possibility of a significant outbreak of the virus in the United States. We are developing plans to ensure that instruction and university operations can continue in the event of a widespread effect on our campus. A group of people, including Shared Governance leaders and other necessary campus staff, have been identified to work on the details of these plans. Since we have dealt with the threat of a serious virus outbreak, in the past, we already have previously established protocols and procedures that are being reviewed for any necessary updates. Those protocols and procedures will be made available to the campus, in the coming weeks.

In the event that our campus is affected in a way that might prevent students, faculty, or staff from reporting to campus, it is important that we be prepared to employ distance-learning mechanisms and work-from-home approaches to ensure that we remain operational and that there is as little interruption to the university, as possible. To this end, the Information Technology Division will be scheduling training sessions, to be held next week, in order to ensure that all students, faculty, and staff are prepared to use the technology that is already available such as Blackboard and Panapto. If you have not used these resources or feel that you would benefit from a refresher training in these areas, please, take advantage of this opportunity. There will be several training sessions offered over the course of multiple days, and a schedule will be distributed, shortly.

We will continue to update you with additional and more detailed information as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

Mickey L. Burnim, Ph.D.

Interim President