April 8th 2020

Dear Northwestern students,

We understand that these are difficult and uncertain times for many of our students, but I want to assure you that Northwestern Connecticut Community College remains focused on helping you to reach your educational and career goals. There are a number of important steps we have taken to be more accommodating and flexible as you enroll for the summer and fall semesters.

- Summer and Fall Registration is underway. Please contact your advisor to plan your schedule and register through my.commnet.edu. A decision as to whether Summer classes will have to be all online will be made by mid-April.

- Make sure that you renew your 2020-2021 FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov.

- All campuses within the CSCU system are maintaining pay for student workers for the Spring semester.

- We are offering opportunities to extend and defer existing payment plans. If a student enrolls in a fall 2020 installment plan with an outstanding Spring balance, the installment plan will automatically pick up that spring balance and carry it forward and spread it evenly over the Fall plan dates. The student will not have to do anything.

- We are allowing students to enroll for a future semester even with an outstanding balance. Fall enrollment is already underway, and we encourage you to work with your faculty advisor or Center for Student Development.

- We do have a limited student emergency fund for major financial crises such as food insecurity or homelessness. Please contact Dr. Ruth Gonzalez at rgonzalez@nwcc.edu for assistance.

- We also have a limited supply of free Stop & Shop grocery cards, courtesy of our Food for Thought Food Pantry, Phi Theta Kappa and Stop & Shop, Inc. Contact Prof. Bryda and Prof. Wiggins if you have questions. They have helped the campus raise over $3,300 already to help students get groceries.

Click on this link to fill out a request form if you'd like assistance: Food for Thought NCCC Stop & Shop Request Form
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

- Northwestern will also soon receive an allocation from the federal government under the CARES act that we will use for emergency financial assistance to students. We will use this money and every other resource we can find to help you succeed in these challenging times.

If you have questions or concerns with enrolling for next semester, please reach out to your faculty advisor to plan your Fall schedule. We want you to succeed at NCCC and complete your degree on time, and we will try to do whatever it takes to make that happen.

Finally, please make use of our online guide for navigating classes this semester [https://www.nwcc.edu/student-online-guide/](https://www.nwcc.edu/student-online-guide/)

An online FAQ from the CSCU System will soon be posted to help students make informed decisions regarding switching their classes to pass/fail option instead of a letter grade.

My advice is to hold off on making any changes until **after you have received your Spring grades AND you have contacted your advisor**.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Rooke, Ph.D.
President