New Campus Health and Safety Measures

University of Northern Iowa
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Campus Community,

Earlier this week, Gov. Reynolds provided updated direction on additional facilities that should be closed statewide, including libraries, museums, playgrounds, and a list of other locations and businesses. To protect the health of our employees and students, we continue to follow the guidance of Gov. Reynolds, the Iowa Department of Public Health, and the CDC.

In order to continue to emphasize the health and safety of our campus community, most campus buildings will be locked until further notice beginning at the end of the day Friday, April 10. During this time period, custodial staff will begin deep cleaning all UNI facilities. The limited access to buildings will allow custodial staff to thoroughly clean areas with decreased risk of being infected.

While many faculty and staff are working remotely, there are some employees whose positions do not allow them to do so. We are encouraging those who are able to work from home to please do so, for your safety and for the safety of those who must come to campus. We are requesting employees that must enter campus buildings to please use specific doors to enter and exit. These doors will be identified by signage on the door. The custodial staff will be cleaning these doors and entryways more frequently for your safety.

UNI Police and facilities staff will not be unlocking buildings or offices for individuals, so it is important for employees to bring their keys to campus. If an employee has misplaced their key and needs access to their work area, a new key/card request can be submitted. If for some reason you must enter a building that you do not have access to, please contact the office within the building that you are needing to visit and please do not prop open doors.

Gilchrist will remain open during the business hours to accommodate student use of a remote printer station and limited Business Office needs. Redeker Center will also remain open to serve the dining needs of students on campus.

Health experts are estimating that the next two to four weeks will be critical to the health of all Iowans. Your willingness to work remotely will benefit the entire UNI community and especially support the custodial and facilities staff who must work on campus. With the peak of Covid-19 cases still a few weeks out in Iowa, it’s critical to stay home as much as possible, practice social distancing when you do need to get out, and take reasonable protective measures, including washing your hands frequently.
Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of others. Please continue to take care of yourselves and your loved ones as we work through this situation together.