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**To:** LSC-Campus-Employees <[LSC-Campus-Employees@lsc.edu](mailto:LSC-Campus-Employees@lsc.edu)>; LSC-Campus-Faculty <[LSC-Campus-Faculty@lsc.edu](mailto:LSC-Campus-Faculty@lsc.edu)>

**Subject:** Campus Update March 17

Dear LSC Campus Community:

Interestingly enough (at least to me!), I am currently reading Erik Larson's latest book "The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill." The parallels between the rapidly changing situation that is COVID-19 in the USA and the rapidly changing situation of the early days of World War II in England are striking.

As Churchill experienced, it seems as though communications are sent with the latest plan, only to find conditions have changed and new adjustments must be made. Vendors trying to take advantage of our confusion or panic or fears bombard our social media and email. Rumors abound, and "perfect solutions" are pitched with just the right amount of sympathy and helpfulness, all offered at a new low price. My email is full of such messages trying to stampede us into buying services that will magically make it all better. Well, the hard truth is, we have many challenging days ahead. And there is no magic solution.

And yet, we do have each other and many very talented people ready and willing to fight what seems to be a shifting unseen enemy. People who are meeting (safely) and planning for a variety of contingencies and scenarios. People coming together to plan and prepare. Churchill also noticed that the best assurance of success was with the people and their planning. In his speech to the House of Commons on June 4, 1940, Churchill said:

"I have, myself, full confidence that if all do their duty, if nothing is neglected, and if the best arrangements are made, as they are being made, we shall prove ourselves once again able to defend our Island home, to ride out the storm of war, and to outlive the menace of tyranny..."

People planning and preparing. The good news is that we have many tools already available to us, and we have willing and talented people who can help others learn to use these tools. We also have options for small group F2F interactions if needed. We can have staggered schedules to accommodate various student needs.

For some folks, the need to be 100% online is a reality and necessity. We are working with them to make that feasible and workable. For others, partial time at the campus is perfectly doable and highly practical, and some of us will be primarily on campus to keep things moving and grooving, unless of course the order is given to close. We are not there yet.

In all cases, people are pulling together to do their best for students and each other within these changing conditions. Will everything we do be perfect? Nope. Will we have courses or services that just don't measure up to our high standards? Yup, and we will still do our very best, even as we criticize ourselves.

Kelli Hallsten Erickson's email to the faculty today summed this up so beautifully: "you are a human being, doing the best you can." I, too, have full confidence in our LSC community and the talents,

creativity, and willingness to “ride out the storm” doing and being the best we can. You are amazing, and thank you for that!

Keep calm, and carry on. Keep on truckin’ and keep on keepin’ on.

Patricia L. Rogers, Ph.D.  
President  
Lake Superior College



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