Dear BSN Students (Levels 1-5)

As COVID-19 continues to affect the nation, the School of Nursing administration, faculty, and staff are working diligently to carry out our semester activities as it relates to your nursing education. We are in contact with NMSU administration and receiving updates as information becomes available. Most of this information is also being communicated from the Chancellor or President’s office through the NMSU email system.

NMSU has declared a two week spring break starting Monday March 16th. This means that classes, clinicals, labs, simulation and workshops (such as the Resume Workshop on March 16) have all be cancelled next week. Your course and clinical instructors will communicate with you about what this means in your courses and clinicals.

Dr. Doig and I have met with the BSN faculty to formulate a plan for instruction if/when the university moves all courses to an online format. We are developing a contingency plan if we are unable to hold labs/simulation on campus and/or go to clinical sites, including developing alternative clinical assignments. We are reviewing course activities for all Levels with priority attention to Level 5 students preparing to graduate from the program in Spring 2020.

The majority of our clinical sites are still accepting students for clinical rotations. Our clinical partners have been keeping us updated with new policies and procedures that they are using to monitor individuals (including student nurses and faculty) who are entering their facilities. As we receive information, it will be relayed to the Faculty of Record (i.e., the lead clinical instructor) and individual clinical instructors so that it can be shared with their students. Please be aware that most facilities will not let anyone into their facility if they have travelled internationally, have travelled to a COVID-19 high risk area, or have symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath).

Students will receive updates through their NMSU email and Canvas courses. Additionally, clinical faculty may contact their students by phone or text. Please check all modes of communication frequently during the spring break and throughout the rest of the semester.

Any student who experiences signs & symptoms of illness should follow up with their health care provider or Aggie Health & Wellness on campus.

We are committed to providing you a quality nursing education and appreciate your patience as we determine how we are going to continue moving forward. We will provide an update once decisions are made.

Sincerely,

Dr. Teresa G. León, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC
Associate Director for Undergraduate Programs
College Associate Professor
New Mexico State University School of Nursing
(575) 646-4685 or tleon@nmsu.edu