Dear Colleagues:

The COVID-19 virus has affected the operations of colleges and universities across the country. Acting President Dr. Ruby Perry has sent a formal announcement to notify the Tuskegee campus community of the collective decision to extend students’ Spring Break for one week to prepare to teach courses remotely. We make this difficult decision in order to protect the health and well-being of our students, faculty and staff — as well as the greater Tuskegee community.

In the meantime, as per the Office of the Provost, all faculty are to report to campus on Monday, March 16, 2020, at 8 a.m. to receive additional instructions. The Office of the Provost is working with the academic deans to organize training sessions for each college/school, which will begin at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 16 and continue through Friday, March 20. Information regarding the locations of these instructional meetings is forthcoming from the deans of their respective areas.

*It is imperative that faculty have all materials prepared to teach students remotely by Friday, March 20 so students can access and be prepared for online instruction on Monday, March 23.* In order to provide an enhanced virtual learning experience, we will enforce the 2012 mandate that all faculty members and students use Blackboard. **Please log into Blackboard immediately using your username and password to confirm that you have access.**

Faculty advisors should provide guidance to graduate students engaged in research. Students enrolled in professional programs will be notified by their respective deans with guidance on how to meet clinical and other post-professional requirements.

Prevention is a key strategy with any virus, whether it be influenza or coronavirus, so it is important to both protect yourself and take measures against spreading the virus to others. Tuskegee University is actively monitoring this very fluid situation and will work through campus communication channels to provide further updates.

If you have additional questions, please contact your respective dean.

Sincerely,

Carla Jackson Bell, Ph.D.
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs