

Thu, Mar 12, 2020

Team USNA,

Good afternoon.

After soliciting input from leadership across the Yard, very careful consideration and deliberate thought, I have decided to delay reform of the Brigade for approximately 14 days to the weekend of 28 March. This will give our leadership team decision space and preparation time to make sure we can properly protect the health and welfare of the Brigade and our faculty, staff, and coaches. This extra time will also allow our faculty to better prepare for future online/remote academic instruction. While the Brigade will be away for an additional two weeks, the current intent is to start online/remote academic instruction on Friday, 20 March.

There are NO plans to shut down the Naval Academy. Please continue to coordinate with your supervisors regarding your work schedule.

Additionally, for everyone's situational awareness, the Patriot League Council of Presidents made the difficult and challenging decision to cancel all spring athletics competitions through the remainder of the academic year, effective Monday 16 March. Individual institutions will decide the championship participation status of winter teams and student-athletes who have qualified as well as out-of-league competitions.

Navigating the COVID-19 waters will remain a dynamic challenge for the foreseeable future. I greatly appreciate your flexibility, adaptability and cooperation as we strive to achieve two strategic goals: (1) slowing the spread of COVID-19 for health and safety of the Brigade, faculty, staff; and coaches, and (2) successfully completing the semester, including graduating and commissioning the Class of 2020 on time.

V/r, VADM Buck