

Dear Students,

Our office has heard from many of you with questions regarding COVID-19 planning, and how your accessibility related academic accommodations may be impacted by the decision to cancel all in-person undergraduate and research-stream Masters and Doctoral courses and provide teaching by other means (e.g. online).

Please know that our office remains committed to helping you complete your term with as little disruption as possible. We are attaching a resource which discusses the transition from classroom to online learning for our students. The document provides tips, referral pathways and next steps. We are also developing a detailed 'Question and Answer' document to address your more specific concerns that will be sent out early next week.

Please keep the following in mind:

- **Our office remains available to you**, although we would encourage you to connect via phone and email - [access.utm@utoronto.ca](mailto:access.utm@utoronto.ca) / 905-569-4699. Please call ahead before coming to campus due to COVID-19 related measures.
- **If you would like to communicate a specific accessibility related concern to your Accessibility Advisor about a change that has been made in your course(s)**, please use the attached form to help ensure we have all the information that we need to respond in an appropriate and timely way. We will be triaging for urgency and immediate need, and appreciate your patience. Non-urgent situations may have a longer than normal response time, but we will get back to you.
- **We will continue to hold Accessibility Advisor appointments with our students**, as scheduled, however these will now be phone or Zoom (video) based.
- **The Volunteer Notetaking program** continues to run, and we have asked all volunteer notetakers to continue taking notes online and upload to the notetaking portal for you to access these resources.
- **If you have registered for a test or exam that is being held after Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> and has been moved online**, please follow up with your Accessibility Advisor if you have questions about your accommodations. Please note that the accommodations that can be provided through online testing arranged by the instructor may only include extra time however, please contact your Accessibility Advisor if you have any concerns. All students will be receiving further communications and updates regarding test and final exams in the coming weeks.

- **Bursary for Students with Disabilities (BSWD) Funding** remains in place, so long as a course is running and has not been cancelled. Please continue to utilize these supports, and submit receipts to Enrollment Services as per usual.
- In the interest of your health and well-being, we **are cancelling all drop-ins and group programming**. However, we are hoping to offer some programming on-line. Stay posted and check the CLNx and our web-site for updates!

These changes will require some adjustments by all members of the campus community (faculty, staff and students). Thank you for your patience and cooperation to find reasonable solutions, given these exceptional circumstances.

Best wishes,

Liz

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