

From: AAU President <AAU.President@aau.edu>

Date: March 12, 2020 at 11:47:00 AM EDT

Subject: A Message from President Coleman About AAU's COVID-19 Resources and Operations Status



President Memorandum

Colleagues,

As you are all acutely aware, our community is contending with an unprecedented foe: COVID-19. The novel coronavirus has had far-reaching impacts on your campuses and the higher education community. The reaction of our community to COVID-19 has been swift and effective, and I applaud all of you for your tireless efforts to keep your campuses and communities safe.

We in Washington, D.C., are also experiencing the effects of COVID-19. In accordance with CDC guidance, and following the example set by many of your campuses, **AAU will shift our Washington operations online beginning at 12:00 p.m. ET today.**

We are considering the status of upcoming meetings, including the Spring Membership Meeting scheduled for April 19 to 21, on a day-to-day basis. We will keep you up to date about any decisions about potential changes to the meeting.

While we at AAU are following CDC and congressional guidance to limit face-to-face contact, we are committed to remaining a space for your staff to convene. This week we launched a pair of listservs for members of your federal relations team and your senior research officers to share information and updates about how responses to the virus are being managed. Beginning in January, our Public Affairs Network Issues Committee has held frequent calls to coordinate messaging and share best practices regarding the epidemic.

To highlight the monumental efforts of your campuses to respond to the virus on a national

scale, we continue to share stories about research your faculty members are conducting. The AAU team has also engaged with the federal government and the media about your efforts and the guidance research universities need as we wrestle with COVID-19. Today, AAU launched a "[COVID-19 Resources](#)" page (*login required*) where we will share collected guidance and other information and resources from member institutions and federal agencies as they become available.

AAU will monitor the situation closely and will continue sharing any relevant information that could be helpful to you as your university responds. Please let me or any member of the AAU team know if there are other resources you might need to help with your response to COVID-19.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Sue". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a prominent loop on the 'y' and a long tail on the 'e'.

Mary Sue