

# BC responds to global pandemic

*College extends spring break, moves to online classes for at least two weeks*

The coronavirus pandemic officially hit home on Thursday, March 12, 2020.

That was the day on which Brevard College students, staff and faculty received word from BC president David Joyce that the college's response to the pandemic was to extend spring

break by one week and very likely move to online classes starting on Monday, March 23. That decision to move to online classes was made official a few days later.

Brevard College's change in its method of instruction falls in line with nearly every other

college, university and school in the United States. The rapid transition to online education has affected nearly every institution of higher education and school district in the nation. The World Health Organization officially labeled the outbreak a global pandemic on March 11, the first pandemic for WHO since the H1N1 outbreak of 2009.

President Joyce's email the next day acknowledged the impact of the outbreak on Brevard College students, staff and faculty. "This is a very unique and rapidly changing time," he wrote. "All of us are well aware of the spread of the COVID-19 virus and angst and anxiety associated with these developments."

Joyce said it was important for all of us to be patient and supportive, and he pledged to be transparent in informing the campus community of steps being taken to respond to the pandemic. "Perhaps our greatest asset is our campus community," he wrote. "Calling ourselves a family, is more than a wish, it is a reality. Now we have the opportunity to demonstrate it to the wider community."

#### **BC's response to COVID-19**

The latest information about the college's COVID-19 plans can be found on this website, <https://brevard.edu/covid-19-updates/>.



Photo by Zach Dickerson

A parking lot near Beam, Jones and Stanback residence halls was virtually deserted earlier today. Students were informed not to return to campus unless they got special permission to do so.

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