

March 13, 2020

Dear Externs,

COVID-19 continues to generate disruption. As you read in Vice Chancellor Haynie's message yesterday, and the message from Dean Boise that followed, the CDC has highlighted the importance of social distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Social Distancing means "remaining out of congregate settings, avoiding mass gatherings, and maintaining distance (approximately six feet) from others when possible."

As a result, our March 23 networking reception has been cancelled. The planning of our receptions must be suspended at this time. As soon as we can resume them, we will—they are an integral portion of our program.

Similarly, for the foreseeable future, our seminars will be held online, via Zoom, if possible or cancelled if not.

Our scheduled March 23rd seminar with Rep. John Katko must be cancelled as his office will not allow Zoom. For seminars scheduled after March 23rd, I will send you Zoom invitations and instructions. If you have any questions concerning Zoom, or would like assistance with familiarizing yourself with the tool, please contact IT via LawHelp. I am confident you will find in Zoom a user-friendly platform.

My guidance concerning your placements has not changed. Communication is crucial. I have already heard from most DCEX participants about placements' plans. If you know that your placement is modifying its work approach or signaling any change at all, please e-mail me (if you have not already) as I want to keep track of everyone and make plans as appropriate, in partnership with you.

To be clear, even if your placement is not teleworking, if you would prefer to telework, then feel free to do so. Your safety and ease of mind comes first. Simply discuss the option of teleworking with your placement supervisor, or if you would prefer I did, I am happy to do so.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns. We will get through these trying times together.

Thanks everyone. Take care,

Professor Terry Turnipseed