

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 11, 2020

Media Contact: Alandrea P. Stewart, Ed.D. Harris-Stowe State University O: (314) 340-3991 C: (314) 203-4296 stewarta@hssu.edu

Harris-Stowe State University Spring Break Extended

ST. LOUIS – Harris-Stowe State University will extend its spring break for students until Monday, March 23, due to the global outbreak of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). While the University does not have any known coronavirus cases among its campus community, there has been a reported case in the St. Louis metropolitan area during the last week.

The health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff remain our highest priority. To that end, the University will be using the week to put new policies in place as preventative measures to protect our university community, thoroughly sanitize the campus, and plan for a possible shift to online-only classes in the event of a closure.

The University is taking a measured response to mitigate risk and have made the following decisions, effective Thursday, March 12, about the campus schedule.

- Harris-Stowe State University will extend its spring break for students and cancel all classes until Monday, March 23, 2020.
- The University, as well as the William L. Clay Early Childhood Center, will remain open.
- Faculty are to report to work at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 16, 2020, for training and to plan for a possible shift to online instruction.
- Campus housing will remain closed.
- Residential students may return to campus at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 21.
- Employees who are ill are instructed to stay at home.
- All intercollegiate athletics competitions are expected to continue as planned. Any changes will be posted to the University website.
- All other external events will be canceled until further notice to adhere to the CDC's recommendation for social distancing.

Harris-Stowe will continue to monitor the COVID-19 outbreak. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to continue to practice the recommended personal precautions to help stem the spread of the coronavirus and visit <u>www.hssu.edu/healthservices</u> for updates.

About Harris-Stowe State University

Harris-Stowe State University (HSSU), located in midtown St. Louis offers the most affordable bachelor's degree in the state of Missouri. The University is a fully accredited four-year institution with 50 majors, minors and certificate programs in education, business and arts and sciences. Harris-Stowe's mission is to provide outstanding educational opportunities for individuals seeking a rich and engaging academic experience. HSSU's programs are designed to nurture intellectual curiosity and build authentic skills that prepare students for leadership roles in a global society.