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Faculty COVID-19 Reflection 15

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Spring 2020 | COVID-19 Reflection

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For me, work has changed since we made campus wide adjustments as a result of COVID-19 adjustments- but not nearly as much as for others. My administrative/committee duties changed the most as they went from all in-person to virtual TEAM meetings. After grappling with and 'somehwhat mastering' Teams, that transition has been relatively smooth. I think that with a bit more practice, Teams Meetings could be used as a way to have more efficient, effective meetings from time to time. It is a true luxury not having to traipse all over campus for a meeting- that noted, I am looking forward to meeting occasionally face-to-face. I am super impressed how quickly Andrew got everyone's Teams up and running and was available to trouble-shoot just about 24/7. I have also been thoroughly impressed with everyone's positive attitude, patience with one another, and caring sentiments. It is during times of strife when the best in people comes out- and this pandemic has been no exception.

For my teaching responsibilities I taught 3 courses during the Spring semester- 2 graduate courses (one online and one hybrid) and one undergraduate course online. The hybrid course was easy enough to switch to all online and the other 2 online courses sailed through with very few glitches. The one exception in my EM515: Legal Aspects of Emergency Management- a good number of my students are working in EMA offices and on the front lines of the pandemic; the primary alteration I made to the course was to eliminate the Final Exam as it was not comprehensive and what it would have covered they are living.

There did seem to be a good bit of confusion for my undergraduate students about the P/NC option; I think this was most likely due to the P/F option they had during the tornado disaster- but nonetheless, they were confused. I am hopeful that I have averted any crisis; I suppose I will know after grades are turned in.