



Ponce Health Sciences University  
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January 13, 2020

Dear Community Members:

Words cannot describe the effects that the current seismic activity over the past few weeks has had on our community collectively. These events have taken a massive toll not only on Puerto Rico's infrastructure, but more importantly, on all of our mental health. In times such as these it is essential that we stick together and communicate effectively.

Beginning January 14th, there will be daily correspondence sent via email and through other outlets (IE, social media, our website and emergency response systems) to efficiently communicate messaging from PHSU campuses. I ask that you check these outlets frequently as we are in the process of updating them with important information. During the next few days departments will send information regarding mental health services on campus.

The University has taken the following steps to ensure that when classes resume January 21st, 2020 that all physical facilities are safe for occupancy. All campus buildings have been examined by a professional engineer and have been found safe for occupancy. Due to the continuation of seismic events on the island each building is inspected daily, prior to the commencement of classes, by our facilities staff.

Our Safety Officer and facilities staff have posted evacuation routes in the hallways and will be conducting training and information sessions over the next few days to orient the administration, faculty and staff on the proper procedures during disasters. We will begin to circulate this material with ample time before classes start as the safety of our entire community is our main priority.

We ask that those of you who are in need of assistance please contact your respective Dean or Supervisor to address these situations. It is important that all students complete the needs assessment sent out last week so that the university can identify those who need assistance and can help them accordingly.

Again, words cannot describe these trying times. I want you to know that your safety is not only my main concern, but also the main concern of our entire administration.

Take care and be safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dr. David Lenihan". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dr. David Lenihan, PhD, JD

President and CEO