Dear East Los Angeles College Community,

Today, Sunday, March 22, 2020, we received confirmation of an ELAC student who tested positive on March 21, 2020 for COVID-19. The student reported feeling possible symptoms the week prior and was tested on Wednesday, March 19. The student is in quarantine and reported to us to be doing well and is recovering. We are doing all we can to support the student during this time.

Out of an abundance of caution and guidance from public health protocols, all faculty and staff at East Los Angeles College who were previously scheduled to be on campus Monday, March 23 are now directed to work from home unless first contacted by their direct supervisor to report, as part of the college’s essential functions team. All faculty and staff who are already working remotely should continue to do so.

The student appears to have been exposed to the virus while at UCLA sometime during the week of March 8. According to the student, they were last at the ELAC campus 10 days ago on March 12—from approximately 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. in G5 Building—RT room with computers and may have also visited the Student Store.

We are in the process of notifying other students and faculty who may have had direct contact with the student during this time. In addition, we will close G5 and the Student Store until further notice for cleaning and sanitization.
We wanted to share this information with you as quickly as possible for your protection and to help reduce rumors or false information. We will continue to keep you informed for any other developments. We will do all that we can to help any of our students, faculty and staff who become ill during this pandemic emergency.

We urge everyone to follow the “Safer At Home” orders from California Gov. Newsom and our local public health officials. Even at home, always practice good hygiene. If you are sick, immediately call your doctor or healthcare provider for advice before going to a hospital or urgent care.

The best source of public health information is available from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. We will also continue to update our official Districtwide coronavirus website at www.laccd.edu/coronavirus.

Again, if you are sick, or if you believe you have been exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, please contact your primary healthcare provider as soon as possible. If you do test positive, you need to call the ELAC Office of the President immediately at (323) 265-8662.

Thank you.

Raúl Rodríguez, Ph.D.