



Dear Students & Scholars,

We miss you! We hope you are staying safe & healthy as you transition to this new routine of online everything. We will modify our weekly newsletter a bit & use this platform to check in with you, provide updates & resources, and to continue to let you know of any virtual events that our office is able to offer for the remainder of the semester. We are open [online](#) for you, so please do let us know if you are facing any challenges or if there is anything we can do to support you/help you!

-The OIP Staff (Janice, Andrew, Julie-May & Emily)

Valpo News

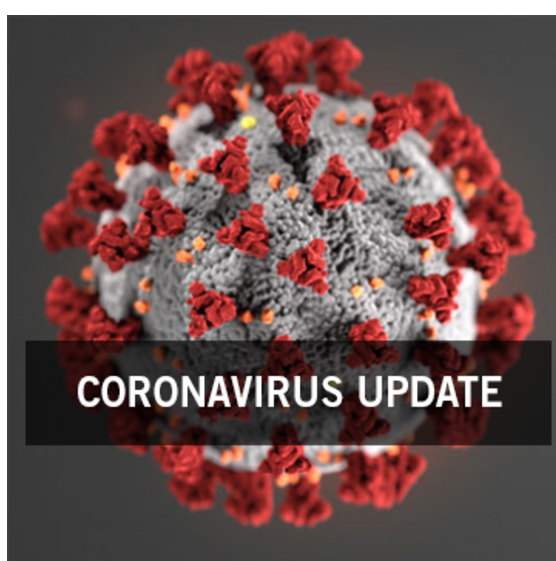


Springtime Snow

This past Sunday, we had a surprise snowstorm in Valpo, leaving us all with a pretty view out our windows. It quickly melted the next day & now we're back to more of a spring feel in the air.

Indiana Stay-At-Home Order

Governor Eric Holcomb of Indiana signed an order for everyone to stay home except for essential business (like going to the grocery store) which took effect on March 24th at 10:59pm & will go until April 6th at 11:59pm. There is a possibility that the order will be extended dependent on the coronavirus situation at the time. For more information on what the stay-at-home order means, click [here](#).



Reminders & Resources

There are some important resources & reminders we wanted to share with you:

International Travel Plans e-form on iValpo: If you are traveling internationally during the rest of the Spring 2020 semester while university classes are online, please complete the International Travel Plans e-form on iValpo (under "F-1 Student Services") so we can help you get a travel signature if you need one & so that we have an idea of where you are in the world.

Bias Incidents: There has been an increase in bias incidents against international people in the US recently due to coronavirus. If you have been the victim of a bias incident either on-campus, online or in the Valparaiso community, please fill out the [bias incident form](#) OR contact VUPD at 219-464-5430. A bias incident is when someone says or does something hurtful to you because of where you come from, what you look like, your religion, gender, viewpoints, race, etc. We want you to feel safe on campus & in the community, so please report if something has happened to you or even if you know of something that happened to someone else!

Evictions/Rent Payment During Stay Home Order: If you are living in an apartment off-campus, please be aware that during the stay-at-home order, your landlord cannot evict you from your apartment due to unpaid rent. However, please also note that any unpaid rent will be due at the conclusion of the order. Please continue to pay your rent as much as you are financially able to.

Counseling Center: If you're feeling overwhelmed or stressed out with all the news about coronavirus &/or transitioning to online class, the Counseling Center is here to support you. They have [TAO Connect](#) self-help OR you can register for a phone consultation by calling 219-464-5002.

Career Center: The Career Center is still open online & offering several virtual events throughout the spring. Check out their calendar & other resources [here](#).

Featured Fun

Virtual Tours of US National Parks

While you are encouraged to get some fresh air safely during the stay-at-home order, there are other ways to explore nature. This week, check out these virtual tours of US National Parks thanks to Google Earth. You can even go on virtual hikes! Click [here](#) for the link.

