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School of Law_Weekly DoSE: Dean of Students Email

Rodney Mondor

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From: Dean of Students <usmdeanofstudents@MAINE.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2020 7:43 AM
To: USM-CURRENT-S@LISTS.MAINE.EDU
Subject: Weekly DoSE: Dean of Students Email

Good morning. I hope you were able to check out the *USMDeanofStudents* Instagram message about Social Distancing. Just a reminder that Spring Break has been extended by two days. **Classes will resume on Wednesday, March 25th.** Classes are online or some alternate mode for the duration of the semester. Please connect with your faculty member for more information.

Remember that we are all in this together. Don't forget to check the USM Homepage for [information and updates](#) around COVID-19 and USM. Please read about community resources available to you below. This week in the DoSE:

1. Free Internet for Students in Need
2. University Tools for Remote Teaching, Learning and Work
3. Access to Textbooks
4. Food Resources in Community
5. Corona virus Information
6. Student Leadership Awards Nominations

FREE INTERNET FOR STUDENTS IN NEED

Several internet providers are offering free internet access for students who are unable to afford services for online learning. Please check their websites, linked below, for specific information:

[Charter Comcast](#) Offer Free Access to Spectrum Broadband and Wi-Fi
[Spectrum](#) offers internet access

UNIVERSITY TOOLS FOR REMOTE TEACHING, LEARNING, AND WORK RESOURCE GUIDE

The University of Maine System has put together a list of tools and resources as our community navigates remote learning together. Visit <https://www.maine.edu/information-technology/support/tools-resource-guide/> for information about IT Support, internet access, and tutorials for accessing many University resources for your online learning, teaching, and work needs. And much more!

ACCESS TEXTBOOKS

In moving to online learning quite suddenly - we realize that some of you may find yourselves without access to textbooks that you were using at the library or sharing with a classmate.

We've partnered with our eCampus Online Bookstore's digital course materials platform, VitalSource, and several leading publishers to launch VitalSource Helps, a program offering free access to ebooks for students who may have lost access to course materials with the rapid move to distance learning.

If you previously accessed textbooks via the library, shared a book with a classmate, or left your books on campus, visit bookshelf.vitalsource.com to access free ebooks the end of the Spring semester. VitalSource Helps provides access to tens of thousands of ebooks, but some content may not be available.

To access free materials, you must use your @maine.edu email address to log in or create an account. Before you get started, we encourage you to review this [student FAQ](#).

FOOD RESOURCES

Campus Food Pantry: Beginning 3/19/20 - 4/6/20 access to the Campus Food Pantry will be by appointment only. To request access email Madeleine.Lutts@maine.edu 24 hours prior to needing access. Appointments will be available between 9am - 3pm, Mon - Fri. This information is subject to change, so please check the [Campus Food Pantry](#) website regularly.

SNAP: Many students struggling with food insecurity may be entitled to [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#) (SNAP) Benefits. Please visit [their website](#) to learn about eligibility and to apply. For confidential assistance with completing the application, contact USMFoodBenefits@maine.edu. A staff member can walk you through the process and help you determine your eligibility for SNAP benefits.

Other Food resources in Maine:

[Community meals in Greater Portland](#)

[Cumberland County food pantries](#)

[Good Shepard Food Bank](#)

CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION

If you experience [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, the first thing you should do is call your primary care provider. They can offer you advice for next steps and screening to see if you should be tested for the virus. Other [important precautions](#) include staying home and limiting your contact with others.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations close on March 26th for the [2020 Student Leadership Awards](#)! Please take a moment to review the list of the [14+ awards](#) and commit to nominating at least one exemplary student for their contributions to USM. Any USM student, faculty, or staff member can complete an unlimited number of nominations, so don't stop at one if you have multiple students in mind! Fill out a [nomination form](#) (or several) by the March 26th deadline. A selection committee of students, faculty, and staff will review all award nominations. The committee will be selected by March 20th. If you would like to serve on the selection committee, please email David Lewis at david.lewis@maine.edu.

Dean Mondor

Dean of Students Office | University of Southern Maine |

188 Upton Hall | Gorham, ME 04038 | Phone: 207.780.4035 | e-mail: usmdeanofstudents@maine.edu

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