COVID-19 Statement from LAUNCH: UGR for Explorations: The Texas A&M Undergraduate Journal

LAUNCH: UGR is hoping you are all keeping well. As you all know, classes are cancelled for the week of March 16-20, and thereafter classes will be held online. Undergraduate students are not expected to be on campus. This week off from classes gives you an excellent opportunity to work on your Explorations full manuscripts if you are able.

Effective Thursday, March 19, 2020, LAUNCH is moving all appointments, meetings, courses, and programming online. No face to face meetings will be accepted and Henderson Hall will be locked. LAUNCH staff will be available via email at ugr@tamu.edu and explorations@tamu.edu, and will be posting resources for students who need financial and other assistance to our website in the coming days.

If you are ill and unable to work on your Explorations full manuscript, contact ugr@tamu.edu and/or explorations@tamu.edu as soon as possible. It is recommended, but not required, that undergraduate researchers should not return to their research labs until March 23, 2020. Undergraduate researchers conducting research for credit should work with their faculty advisors to ensure an appropriate plan as it relates to academic credit. More guidance from the Vice President for Research can be found at https://vpr.tamu.edu/covid-19.

The Explorations Board will continue to review submissions and facilitate the editorial process, and although we will not be meeting in person for the remainder of the semester, Explorations will continue to operate under a revised schedule. Please familiarize yourself with these alternative plans:

**March 25, 2020 at NOON:** Deadline to Submit Full Manuscripts and Cover Artwork Submissions

**March 26, 2020-April 16, 2020:** Full Manuscripts and Cover Artwork Submissions Under Review

**April 17, 2020:** Submission Decisions Distributed to Prospective Authors and Artists

**April 20-May 6, 2020:** Virtual Peer-to-peer Editing with Assigned Board Members

**May 13, 2020 at NOON:** Deadline to Submit Final Articles, Files, Forms, and Approvals

Updates and supplemental resources will be issued via email and on our website at http://launch.tamu.edu/Undergraduate-Research/Explorations/Submissions. Stay healthy, and please let us know if you have any additional questions.

All best,

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LAUNCH: Undergraduate Research