

## Social Sciences v COVID-19

Dispatch #4 | 15 April 2020

MSO's: please share this with your faculty, staff & graduate students.

Our fourth Dispatch marks the third week of this great experiment in remote instruction and virtual operation of our University. We are amazed by all that has been achieved, thanks to the tireless work, ingenuity and talents of so many: faculty and staff, graduate student workers, administrative units at the front lines of efforts to provide instructional resources. We extend our deep appreciation, affirming how difficult and stressful it has been for everyone, and that we are still far from being out from under the impact of COVID-19 on our lives.

At the same time, we feel a rising need to pivot: beginning to mobilize our collective expertise as a Division to address questions associated with the next phase. In this next phase, we face a colossal dilemma. Read on [here](#), a brief entry titled, "underlying conditions."

Or... skip to the punchline: These are not completely worked out ideas; they are a provocation, a call to action, summed up in this central question: how can the stellar staff, students and faculty of our Division best contribute to the collective aspirations of our University, our communities, our society, to eliminate the underlying conditions that have held us down, and to rebuild better?

### Our questions that remain unanswered

- Now that the experiment in remote instruction is underway, how are students experiencing our classes? Our team drew up these [suggestions](#) for taking the mid-quarter pulse.
- *Performance Evaluations for Policy-Covered Staff*. Although President Napolitano has extended extension for completing written performance evaluations until fall. In support of regularly evaluating staff performance, I encourage Chairs and Staff Supervisors to establish a reasonable timeframe to complete all evaluations by the end of spring quarter. Please note that the review period remains the same as past years, 4/1 through 3/31. Performance evaluations are mandatory regardless of merit increases.

### SOSC versus COVID

Please take note of the call from [ISBER](#); we noted in Dispatch #3 some projects underway; please send us additional information as it comes in.

### Resources for confronting the challenge of online education and operations

- A UCB [resource](#) for preventing Zoombomping
- An important [note](#) from Instructional Resources on final exams. **Please share with us your thoughts / strategies on remote evaluation.**

### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

- Predictable [disparities](#) in health complications and deaths along racial lines
- A sober [reminder](#) from Dr. Fauci;
- Student parents face additional burdens. Here's an [article](#) that explores this topic;
- How can farmworkers in SB County stay safe? A radio broadcast [here](#).

#### More Latinos than U.S. adults overall say someone in their household has had pay cut or lost a job due to COVID-19

% who say they, or someone in their household, have \_\_\_ because of the coronavirus outbreak

	Had to take a pay cut	Been laid off or lost job	NET either/both
Latinos	40	29	49
All U.S.	27	20	33

Notes: Hispanics are of any race. Share of respondents who didn't provide an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 19-24, 2020

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### Resources for Hope and Resilience

- A tribute to John Prine, who we lost to COVID last week. ["When I get to Heaven"](#)



- Meantime...while the humans are in lockdown...



**Charles R. Hale**

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