Coronavirus Update: Arts Management Internships

An official statement from the College of Charleston was released on Thursday, March 12, 2020: “All academic instruction, without exception, will be held online Monday, March 23 through Friday, March 27. Campus will remain open and operational during this e-learning week. However, all campus events (i.e., performances, conferences, guest lectures, student gatherings) are cancelled through March 29.” The full statement can be read at this link.

At this point, the College is planning to resume in-person classes on March 30, but what may happen for the remainder of the semester is unknown. What is clear, however, is that we must maintain consistent communication between students, supervisors, and the Arts Management Program to ensure the continued success of our internship program.

For Supervisors:
Spring Break is scheduled for March 16 - 20, and classes will be exclusively online during the week of March 23 - 27. During this time, students have been asked to stay away from campus as much as possible. This will likely result in a significant portion of students remaining outside of Charleston after Spring Break. If this is the case, we ask that you be flexible with students and begin thinking through tasks that they can complete remotely. You are also encouraged to conduct regular check-in meetings via Skype, Zoom, Google Hangouts, etc.

If your student intern will be in town during our online course delivery period and your office remains open, then it is up to you and the student to decide if you want to keep the existing internship schedule as planned or make adjustments. This can actually be a great opportunity to demonstrate your organization’s policies, decision-making processes, and communication with community members, so please feel free to include your intern in any meetings and discussions surrounding this when appropriate.

Ideally, all students will still be able to complete their 120-hour requirement before the end of April, even if some of those hours are earned through remote work. If your student intern will not be in Charleston and you are concerned that you will be unable to provide them with adequate remote work, please reach out to Claire at celong@cofc.edu to discuss potential options. Regardless, please be in touch with your intern(s) and begin to formulate a plan in the event that students may not be on campus for an extended period of time.

For Students:
As you are now aware, classes will be offered online exclusively during the week of March 23 - 27. If you remain in Charleston and your internship organization remains open, you are welcome to continue your internship in person as scheduled. This will be an interesting opportunity to observe organizational decision-making, flexibility, policy implementation, and communication with community members.

If you will not be in Charleston during the week after Spring Break or any other potential times that the College may suspend in-person classes, please work with your site supervisor to discuss options, including remote work and video conferencing. Ideally, all students will still be able to complete their 120-hour requirement before the end of April, even if some of those hours are earned through remote work. If you are concerned about your ability to meet this hourly requirement, please reach out to your faculty supervisor via email and Claire at celong@cofc.edu.

Thank you for your flexibility during this time. We will be in touch with any updates and relevant information. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.