NEW SHEPARD BUILDING OPERATIONAL HOURS

In response to the COVID-19 situation, modifications are being made to the normal operational procedures of the Shepard Building. The intended purpose of these procedural changes will enhance the safety of those who have a legitimate reason for being in the building: Staff, faculty, and students, as well as those who have verifiable reasons for being present.

Importantly, the changes are NOT a lockdown or closing of the building. The Shepard Building will remain open from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday thru Friday. The building, as it has been, is closed on weekends. Should an employee, or other person, with a specific need to enter the building arrive while the doors are locked, security will provide entry when appropriate.

Effective on Thursday, March 19, 2020 – and until further notice – the following changes will occur:

• All who enter the building will need to do so from Washington Street. The doors at the Westminster Street entrance will be locked; but, individuals will be able to exit.
• All persons who are not recognized by security as employees or students, will be asked for their purpose to be in the building. Those who do not work or go to school here will be denied entrance unless they have a scheduled appointment.
• All students and employees should be prepared to show identification to security if requested. Students will need their URI ID cards to access the computer lab and utilize the library computers.
• It should be noted that during the present time that several entities in the building have moved their operations to a remote format. Several others, including the Rhode Island Department of Education and Student Advising are assisting citizens via telephone or the internet. There should be no in person contact.

Please keep in mind that the purpose for these measures are to keep people safe from potential COVID-19 exposure. It is recognized that these changes may be cumbersome to our community. However, the benefits outweigh the inconveniences. These precautions will allow us to assist our community as they attempt to engage in social distancing, keep crowds in the building well below the recommended numbers, and help to safeguard those in our community who are members of the most vulnerable population.