Dear ISU families,

After a very successful week of e-learning and sunshine, I’m sorry I couldn’t be ending the week on a better note.

The Prime Minister of Bavaria, Markus Söder concluded a press conference earlier this afternoon. Additional measures are being introduced in Bavaria from 12:00 midnight for 2 weeks. Basically, Bavaria has adopted an Ausgangssperre. The closest word in English is curfew.

Here are the major points from the press conference:
- Public life is being severely restricted. The guiding premise is "to stay at home"
- No non-essential travel except going to work, food shopping, bank and medical appointments
- People are not to gather in groups
- You can go outside but only alone or with your family
- Only grocery shops, pharmacies, doctors and banks will remain open
- Drive-in restaurants and take-aways may remain open
- There is no need to panic buy or hoard
- There will be police checks
- There will be fines for not observing these measures.

More information on these measures can be found here. We await an update from the government of Baden-Württemberg.

Obviously, these additional measures have no impact on e-learning.

Many of us have been challenged professionally over the last few weeks but now our personal and social lives are also facing further challenges. No one is alone, we have access to a myriad of communication tools. Look out for each other and check in on each other.

The poignant poem below seems to have coined the poem of the pandemic:

"And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and grew gardens full of fresh food, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.
And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.
And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed."
Kitty O’Meara 1839 – 1888

Go out now get some sunshine and cater to your personal needs. E-learning will kick off again on Monday.

Warm regards to all,
Liam

P.S. We will be updating our website (Covid-19 tab) to include lists of grocery and food delivery services and other essentials.