



September 7, 2010

Dear colleagues, students and other Naropa friends,

The community of Boulder and its surrounding have been faced with a serious fire which is currently continuing to burn in Four Mile Canyon. We have not been affected on our campuses, although we have some preliminary reports that some faculty and students may have been affected by the evacuations yesterday. Our campuses seem to be safe at the moment, but we want to express our concern for those who are struggling with uncertainty and the effects of this devastating situation.

To all members of our community, we are still seeking information as the firefighters try to get this fire under control. Thank you for your letters of concern and we appreciate the way our alumni and friends have reached out in compassion. We do encourage those directly affected to use caution and discretion as you plan to come to classes or to work. Please stay in touch with your immediate supervisor regarding your situation, and supervisors, please use your discretion when it comes to supporting those who are facing personal and immediate impact.

Students may contact the Student Affairs office if there are particular implications for their health or safety. Our staff is working on solutions for any students who may be displaced from their homes. We will also seek to connect you to local resources as the situation unfolds and we are more clearly able to determine which services may provide the best assistance.

The Office of Academic Affairs requests that faculty members work with their students who miss classes because they have been directly affected by the fires. We recognize that the fires may have emotional, physical and material (e.g., household) impacts on members of our community, and AA urges understanding and finding alternative means for students to make-up classes and assignments.

Should any faculty member need to cancel a class, that information should be shared with your department. Please use class e-mail distribution lists if possible, as well.

In the meantime, it is of utmost importance that we support one another in our community. Please try to stay connected and help us understand the needs that exist. Reach out to people around you and see how they are. Encourage them to find a member of the community with whom they can stay in contact.

This is a time for the Naropa community to reach out to one another with compassion and concern. Please reach out to those around you in this challenging moment.

In the spirit of service,

Stuart C. Lord, President

How to Receive Help:

Boulder County Wildfire Advisory:

<http://www.bouldercounty.org/newsroom/templates/bocodefault.aspx?articleid=2293&zoneid=5>

Four Mile Fire: How to get help / How to help - Boulder Daily Camera

http://www.dailycamera.com/ci_16009614?source=rss

Wildfire Resources:

<http://cbs4denver.com/wildfires>

Boulder Office of Emergency Management

<http://boulderoem.com/component/content/article/5>

Incident Information System:

<http://www.inciweb.org/incident/2119/>

How to Help Others:

If you have space in your home- you could consider signing up to be a host for victims of the Four Mile fire. Here's that link:

<http://boulderfirehelp.phpbb3now.com/>

The American Red Cross is accepting donations to help support Four Mile Fire evacuees. To contribute, visit northerncolorado.redcross.org or call 303-722-7474.

The Longmont Humane Society, 9595 Nelson Road, is asking for donations to support pets of evacuees. The shelter is seeking canned dog and cat food, as well as cash donations. To contribute, visit longmonthumane.org or call 303-772-1232.

The Boulder County Fairgrounds is seeking donations to support livestock evacuated from the fire areas. The fairgrounds needs hay, horse feed and other services. To help, contact Boulder County Parks and Open Space at 303-678-6200.

For general rules of using Naropa's staff and faculty mailing lists, visit:
<http://eropa.naropa.edu/staff/it/GeneralRulesofusingNaropasStaffandFacultyMailingLists.asp>