

California State University, San Bernardino

CSUSB ScholarWorks

Separated from the Pack: The CSUSB/COVID-19
Digital Collection

Arthur E. Nelson University Archives

12-4-2020

"Documenting During The Pandemic"

Anonymous

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/csusb-covid-19>

Recommended Citation

Anonymous, ""Documenting During The Pandemic"" (2020). *Separated from the Pack: The CSUSB/COVID-19 Digital Collection*. 298.

<https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/csusb-covid-19/298>

This Diary is brought to you for free and open access by the Arthur E. Nelson University Archives at CSUSB ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Separated from the Pack: The CSUSB/COVID-19 Digital Collection by an authorized administrator of CSUSB ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact scholarworks@csusb.edu.



Documenting During The Pandemic

For my journal entry I tried to remember from when the Coronavirus hit the United States even though the idea of documenting this pandemic was made in August 2020. So this document is mostly in the past tense.

February 2020

Life was going really good during the month of February. I was in school full time while working at Starbucks. I am on the softball team at Cal State so we were starting our season that we had worked all of fall for. So to say the least I was having a great day everyday with my teammates who I consider family and going to class. We started off with some wins in our first tournament and it was looking good for our team at the moment. Being on the softball team, we have always faced adversity. Since I was a freshman in college we have had to face some type of adversity. I don't think any of us knew what was coming ahead in the months to come. In February and early March we were traveling without masks and going everywhere with no distance restrictions. In class we could sit next to each other and socialize without having to wear a mask or distance. At work, I could work with multiple people at once and not have to worry about if any one had symptoms of anything.

March 2020

Slowly, things are starting to change in my hometown and where I go to school. Our season got put on hold because of the risks of us getting sick with the unknown COVID virus. I was very saddened to hear they had made the decision to put it on hold until further notice. It was

like we were about to leave to travel to play another school in Northern California and the next day we weren't allowed to play at all. The seniors were crushed that their last season playing could potentially be cut short. Within a day the school was shut down and we started learning virtually. I personally struggle with online classes so I was going to try to adjust as quickly as possible. All of my friends went back to their hometowns and I was still on campus until the end of the quarter. It was like a ghost town. Walking around campus with no students there felt like a weird dream. It was odd to not see anyone while I was finishing my quarter there. At work, I decided to take the two week leave Starbucks had offered to ensure I wouldn't get my mom sick. With her disease she is at higher risk of getting COVID so I made sure I stayed quarantined until I had to go back to work. Those two weeks made me feel like I was going insane. I had nothing to do but wake up and try to keep myself busy for the whole day until it was time to go to sleep again. My family was all stuck together and we usually aren't so we were trying to get along as best as possible during the time this was happening.

April 2020

In April I made the decision to go back to work and try to work as many hours as I could. When the pandemic hit my father had lost his job and with my mom's disease she can't work at a steady job. While my dad tried filing for unemployment like a lot of people had to do during this time and didn't hear back from them right away. I was working almost full time trying to help my family as much as possible and keep the bills from not getting too far behind. I knew this was going to be stressful since I had a full load of classes on top of the 36 hours I was working during this time. When I came back to work we were severely understaffed everyday and it was extremely busy everyday from the time we opened to the time we closed. It was very stressful

because people would be upset about the wait and how long the drive through line would be. I am grateful to be able to work with the people that I worked with. It was good to have the people I worked with around me and now I consider most of them to be my closest friends. I would not have gotten as close as I am to them if I didn't start working as often as I did.

May 2020

In May I was still working and going to school online. We found out that our season will be canceled indefinitely. I was very sad for the seniors and the opportunity that we had ripped from under us. That was a very heart breaking moment for the whole team. My closest friends were seniors and they were crying and just had the saddest looks on their faces. I couldn't imagine what they were going through. This month I was just trying to stay on top of online school and trying to work consistent hours at work. I started to try to find all of the movies on DVD to try to watch them in my free time. During this time anything to help us be a little less bored would help. Masks are starting to become our daily routine. I grab my car keys, wallet, and a mask now and make sure I always have one with me. The U.S. is leading in cases and are not too worried about the numbers continuing to go up. In this time, I felt the hopelessness of being in only two places, work and home. It takes a toll on a person when you have to either go to work, the store for food or stay at home. I felt at times I was going insane. May I think was rough because I felt hopeless in what will happen in the future.

June 2020

Coronavirus cases are continuing to spike and are becoming more and more real to me. Cases aren't high in my town but in San Bernardino it is one of the worst in California. I now

know people who have gotten COVID and how real the virus really is. I think at this time my mental health is going down. I am trying to be social while working and trying to finish finals but it is very tough to stay focused. During this time I felt as my happiness was going down. It just felt like there isn't going to be an end to the virus. I felt down a lot and struggled with my mental health. I tried to seek some help but I think a lot of people feel the same way because the only counselors I could have due to insurance purposes were completely booked and had no openings. Not a lot was going on during this time but my family and I were just relieved that we were all still healthy.

July 2020

This month it is my dad's birthday. Stuff is starting to be opened but with restrictions such as wearing a mask and distancing from one another. If you have to go inside anywhere a mask is usually required now in any business. At work we have to wear a non medical mask and we have to take our temperatures and take a symptom survey every shift. At work we now have blocks of the same people we work with so we minimize us being exposed to different co-workers. This is where I got super close to my friends who are also my co-workers. Now that more stuff is opening I ended up cutting my hair and got a couple of tattoos. I think I needed change in my life and cutting your hair is a good way to do that. I am glad I had cut my hair before the saloons got closed down again.

August and September 2020

I had to combine these two months because I was super busy during the month of August. In these two months my life was staying constant and I am trying to have a daily routine instead

of trying to just waste my time in quarantine. I am trying to wake up at a consistent time and a constant routine every day. School had officially started and it was completely virtual. This was my first time doing online school and having online meetings with my classmates. My younger brother had done online school before but I never really did that and was nervous to meet and do labs in a virtual setting. Now instead of meeting at school with the softball team every day and working out we are meeting on zoom calls every week. This was hard for me to adjust to and keep everything on a planned schedule.

October 2020

In October I was trying to keep up with my daily schedule while trying to stay positive. I was trying to walk my dogs everyday and do things that make me happy. It is hard to do the things that made me extremely happy during this time. October was my brother's birthday month so we had to have a different kind of birthday party. We could only have a small party with less than ten people so for his 16th birthday party my brother had a very small birthday party that only had a couple of his closest friends and family. I felt bad for him since it was a big birthday for him. We couldn't really do much for Halloween so we did not trick or treat around our town like we usually do. Having no trick or treaters meant we just had a bunch of extra candy laying around the house. In quarantine I have tried to cut back on the treats and more on eating good meals throughout the day.

November 2020

This had to be the hardest month for me by far. I started to get off track of my school work with having to pay for bills around my parents house. It was definitely hard during this

time. At times I felt really hopeless and a lot of times did not want to get up and do anything. On top of all of the craziness, it was my birthday month. It was my 21st birthday and I did not get to celebrate it the way I wanted to. That saddened me when I was kinda stuck at home for my birthday. Knowing that after November it was almost finals week was killing me. I was trying so hard to finish strong but my mental health was not working with me during this time. I am still trying my best and I am trying to find someone I can talk to and get some help mentally.

This pandemic has been a rollercoaster of emotions and it continues to be the worst thing that could have happened in this year. It is still going on but I am hoping that 2021 will be a much better year for everyone.