Fall Restart and Summer Planning

Jun 8, 2021

Dear Campus Community,

As we turn our attention toward the fall semester, we will once again be crafting a restart plan to guide us. The plan will be completed by mid-July, comply with all state and local guidance and be submitted to SUNY for review.

One factor that has not gone away is change and uncertainty. State rules and public health direction changes regularly, so our task is to plan and direct as best we can, being prepared to adjust as required.

Accordingly, here is what we know now and where we're headed over the next two months:

• **Working Groups Will Inform Our Fall Plan.** I have slightly modified the five groups formed last year to develop details for the Fall 2021 Plan in broad topical areas, each led by a vice president. These will meet soon and inform our fall plans.
  - **Academics and Instructional Continuity.** Focus on in-person academic operations, schedule, and related details. Chair: Dr. Anne Herzog
  - **Alumni Engagement and Fundraising.** Focus on ramping up in-person fundraising and alumni events for summer and fall. Chair: Anne Hansen
  - **Housing and Campus Life.** Focus on fall admissions and recruitment, campus housing, community living and student activities for fall. Chair: Lizzie Wahab
  - **Operational Continuity, Health and Safety.** Focus on protections, precautions, distancing, testing, vaccinations and related aspects we are adjusting for fall. Chair: Josee Larochelle
  - **Student Support and Equity.** Focus on what students need to remain successful, how we support students, where that is delivered and in what ways. Chair: Dr. Michelle Cromwell.

• **Mandatory Vaccination Requirements Are Being Developed for Students.** In accordance with the directive issued by the state, beginning in the fall, all students who will have a physical presence on campus will be required to be vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine that has been approved for use by the FDA. The requirement is contingent on final FDA approval of a COVID-19 vaccine. We will work with SUNY to develop a plan to accommodate certain exemptions and grace periods, and will include providing access for vaccinations to students who are not vaccinated upon return to campus in the fall if necessary, and planning for any necessary COVID-19 booster shots once they are available.

• **Many Campus COVID-Related Limitations Remain In Place.** The state has relaxed some but not all requirements. [Details of requirements now are online here.](#) This is an evolving area for fall and we will be planning for multiple scenarios for the use of classrooms until more guidance is issued by the CDC and state. We will continuously assess and confirm that all cleaning protocols are in compliance with any guidance.

• **Pool Testing May be Excused.** Fully vaccinated employees (including auxiliary workers and vendors with a regular on-campus presence) who wish to disclose their COVID-19 vaccination status no longer have to participate in the campus’ weekly surveillance pool testing. In order to be exempt, vaccinated employees need to provide proof of vaccination via the [Vaccination Attestation Form](#).

We are a residential college dedicated to student success. The health and safety of our community, support for ongoing academic progress and a robust campus life are each consistent with this.
As we move forward toward the fall, I know each member of this Cardinal Community is committed to supporting our focus on student success. Your contributions during the spring semester -- as well as the full period since last March -- was deep and benefited our students greatly.

I am grateful for all you do!

Dr. Alexander Enyedi
President