Case Update and Departure Testing Reminder

Nov. 7, 2020

Dear Campus Community,

The college recorded four new COVID-19 cases on Saturday. The students are now isolating.

Two of today's positive cases were identified from Tuesday's pooled surveillance testing of off-campus students. In addition, two positive cases previously reported Friday were also identified through Tuesday's test results. The balance of Tuesday's pool test results were negative. We are awaiting final results for Wednesday's pools.

Over the past 14 days, 16 total cases have been recorded. Additionally, one student is in precautionary isolation having tested negative with rapid tests but awaiting back-up PCR test results.

By direction of the county health department, 57 students (31 on-campus and 26 off-campus) and eight employees are in mandatory or precautionary quarantine. Those in isolation and quarantine are being released as they recover and risk times expire.

We respect the privacy of those in isolation and quarantine and will support them. If you are aware, please also respect their privacy. Decisions by the health department for quarantine are based on an assessment of potential exposure to help prevent possible viral spread.

Fall Departure Testing

SUNY approved the college's fall departure testing plan Friday. The mandatory COVID-19 testing for departing students will be conducted next week, Nov. 11-13.

Details of the departure testing plan are online at the top of the COVID-19 webpage, plattsburgh.edu/COVID-19. Please read through the plan.

Students taking at least one in-person class, utilizing services on campus or working on campus must be tested prior to leaving. Exceptions to the requirements are outlined in the plan. These include fully remote students, those providing documentation of negative test results, and those who have participated in recent campus pooled COVID-19 testing if leaving shortly after. Again, this is detailed online.

Questions about documentation and related requirements should be directed to the Student Health and Counseling Center at healthcenter@plattsburgh.edu. Also, please note that when the campus learns of a student’s failure to follow the above requirements on fall departure testing, their case will be referred to the Student Conduct Office.

Remaining Vigilant

As we have said, cases are increasing across the region, state and nation. As we enter the final two weeks of the on-campus fall semester, please continue our focus on prevention, health and safety. This includes:
• Complete the daily health screening form.
• Follow the Cardinal Pledge, including face coverings, distancing and avoiding large social gatherings.
• Stay local and avoid travel outside the area for the duration of the semester.
• Download the New York State COVID-19 alert app.

Dr. Alexander Enyedi
President