

From: [Cfaes-all](#) on behalf of [Kress, Cathann A. via Cfaes-all](#)
To: cfaes-all@lists.service.ohio-state.edu
Subject: [cfaes-all] Dean's Update
Date: Friday, April 3, 2020 2:25:10 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[ATT00001.txt](#)

CFAES Community:

I want to express to all of you again how grateful I am for your flexibility, your creativity and your innovation during this time. I want to recognize and thank our business-critical employees including our operations staff across our three campuses that are reporting to work to support critical functions of our college. I also want to thank the faculty for your ongoing efforts to provide our students with the support and instruction so important to their education. I hope that all of you are able to take some time this weekend to relax, recharge, and do something you enjoy.

Graduate Courses Pass/No Pass

For this semester only, graduate students will have the option to take all graded graduate courses using a Pass/No Pass (PA/NP) grading system, with a C- as the minimum passing grade. Students should engage their academic advisors in understanding whether this option is appropriate for their circumstances.

Spring Deadlines for Graduate Students

The Graduate School has extended some of its deadlines this semester for graduating students. Final oral examinations should be completed by April 17 and final theses/dissertations must be submitted and approved by the Graduate School by Friday, April 24. These deadlines apply only to graduate students. Questions should be directed to students' program, adviser or the [Graduate School](#).

Summer Classes and Date Changes

For the Summer 2020 term, all courses will be delivered through virtual modes of teaching and learning. Summer term will start and end one week later than originally published. Classes start May 13 and end July 31. Finals take place Aug. 3-5, and summer commencement is Aug. 9. Please note courses will be offered under the university's traditional grading systems; pass/no pass options for spring semester are limited to that term.

Zoom, FERPA and Privacy

Meetings held in CarmenZoom that include course content or student information are protected by [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](#)(FERPA). To ensure students understand how session recordings might be used, all instructors should notify students with a message in their syllabus that says: "Video and audio recordings of class lectures will be part of the classroom activity. The video and audio recording is used for educational use/purposes and may be made available to all students presently enrolled in the course." Making this announcement at the beginning of the next session in which you use CarmenZoom should also be considered. [Read more about Zoom, FERPA and privacy](#).

Zoom Critical Software Update


Two vulnerabilities have been identified with Zoom, Ohio State's academic web conferencing service. These vulnerabilities create privacy and security concerns for Mac and Windows computers. We encourage all users to update as soon as possible. Depending on what device you're using (Mac, Windows, Phone), how to update may look different for you. [Please follow this link for more information.](#)

Update Your 9-1-1 Location Info for Skype

When working from home and not using the university network, be sure to update the Skype for Business "Set My Location" setting with your home address. Your location information within Skype for Business can be used to feed the **Emergency 9-1-1** system so that emergency services know how to find you. Updated location information may need to be re-entered each time your computer is rebooted. Read Step-by-Step Instructions - https://osuitsm.service-now.com/selfservice/kb_view.do?sysparm_article=kb05129

Can I make a change to my Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (FSA) election since I am not incurring expenses while my dependent care provider is closed or unavailable?

New 3/26/2020

A change in dependent care provider expenses is a qualified status change that allows you to reduce or cancel your Dependent Care FSA election amount, if done within 30 days of the effective date of the status change. Complete the [FSA Election Form](#)  and return via email to hr@osu.edu or fax to 614-292-7813.

We also have things to celebrate during these times...a few highlights follow.

I would like to congratulate Dr. Katrina Cornish for her induction into the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) College of Fellows. <https://aimbe.org/press/cornish-COF-5029.pdf>

Advancement is currently 98% to our fundraising goal of \$37M for the fiscal year. Our priorities for the Time and Change: A Ohio State Campaign are Student Success/Workforce Development, Helping to translate our Research, and Waterman Agricultural and Natural Resources Laboratory capital improvements.

CFAES donors continue to want to support our work to advance our mission. Recent gift conversations have centered around supporting graduate scholarship and research, workforce development on our Wooster Campus, and student support in this time of need, in addition to funding for our Controlled Environment Research and Food Production Facility.

Faculty have commented on students engaging more in virtual classes than face-to-face, as well as the ease of bringing in guest speakers and academic mentors to join classes.

OSU Extension implemented an Agriculture and Natural Resources Madness: A Tournament of Education" that includes 64 educational events broken into daily brackets. The first week of the event resulted in over 4,500 attendees.

Dean Cathann A. Kress, Ph.D.

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