

Subject: [Uati] Dean's Update
Date: Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 2:01:14 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Uati on behalf of CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean via Uati
To: CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean via Cfaes-all, uagr@lists.osu.edu, uati@lists.osu.edu, faes-grd@lists.osu.edu, uenr@lists.osu.edu
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, ATT00001.txt

CFAES Community,

As we finish up the first week of classes, I was thinking how it was a bit like the first time I drove a car. There were so many things to pay attention to—from the mirrors, turn signals, the route I was driving, how to merge on highways. It was unfamiliar and kind of exhausting. This came to mind because in returning to campus, there are many things that feel unfamiliar and kind of exhausting. Do I have my mask? Did I use the right door? Where can we sit to eat? Where are the buses? Why is Zoom acting up?

Thank you for what you are doing to keep those around you safe by following all the COVID related safety protocols. If you are like me, you are getting used to them (although I keep going out the wrong door when I leave Ag. Admin.). Many of you are juggling courses, research, activities—and this is only part of your life—thanks to everyone doing what you can so we can keep moving forward with the work of our college, whether it's in Columbus, Wooster, or all across the state in our county offices and research stations.

As we work through some of the bumps, I want to remind you to engage with your respective council representatives. Whether it be issues with the buses (see below), questions or concerns, or things we should know that could improve how things are working—council representatives can make sure it is brought to our attention.

- [Faculty Advisory Council](#)
- [Staff Advisory Council](#)
- [Graduate Student Advisory Council](#)
- [CFAES \(Undergraduate\) Student Council](#)

Thank you for your patience, dedication and perseverance. Just like with driving, it gets easier as we do it. It's been great to see many of you this week when I was up in Wooster and in Columbus. And if you see someone going out the wrong door in Ag. Admin., it's probably still me.

Be well.

Dean Cathann Kress

This update includes:

- Contact Tracing Update
- University COVID-19 Dashboard
- CFAES Columbus Campus Library
- Common Areas for Students
- CABS Route Changes
- Uptick in Phishing Attacks
- Security Reminder

Contact Tracing Update

We wanted to organize a few resources and notes about contact tracing. Information about tracing, isolation and quarantine can be found at <https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu/tracing-isolation-quarantine>. The most current outline of tracing and exposure management (as of August 19, 2020) can be found at https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu/sites/default/files/2020/08/covid-19_testing_exposure_management_contact_tracing.pdf. A few key notes to keep in mind about contact tracing:

- The university has stood up its own contact tracing unit - Case Investigation and Contact Tracing Team (CICTT) - to assist county health officials with student, staff and faculty-related tracing.
- As the PDF tracing and exposure management document clearly outlines on pages 3 and 4, if you've learned of someone (student, staff or faculty) who possibly may have COVID-19 or have positively tested for COVID-19, you are not authorized to share that person's health information. You should work with Student Health Services (SHS)/Employee Health Service (EHS) and the CICTT. The PDF outlines contact information for those units.
- The PDF linked above outlines the process if you develop symptoms or have been exposed to COVID-19.
- If you are tested outside of Ohio State and test positive, faculty and staff need to notify Employee Health Services (EHS) by calling 614-366-3689 and students need to notify SHS by secure message via My BuckMD, sl-covid19.shs@osu.edu or 614-292-4321. If you are tested at an Ohio State site, the Ohio State contact tracing team will be notified of the positive result.
- Related to the tracing conversation, if someone leaves a class, lab or space feeling ill, we will act as though it is a COVID-19 case and out of an abundance of caution, we will temporarily shut down the space for next appropriate steps. For questions on what to do with a CFAES space, please contact Seth walker.439@osu.edu | 330-263-3665

We recognize there are some nuances related to Wooster and Statewide Campuses. We continue to ask questions to better understand those nuances.

University COVID-19 Dashboard

The university has developed a [data dashboard](#) that will be updated weekly to inform the public about test results and other information about the university's COVID-19 status. The student data includes both surveillance testing to continuously gauge the prevalence of COVID-19 in asymptomatic students and testing among students who sought tests because of symptoms or another reason. The data is being shared in a way that protects individuals' medical and educational privacy — and will help inform university decision making related to on-campus operations, health and safety measures and more throughout the autumn semester. The dashboard includes data on:

- Ohio State test results
- The number of students currently in on-campus isolation or quarantine housing
- The availability of personal protective equipment on campus
- The status of enhanced cleaning measures on campus
- Ohio's statewide case count, for reference
- The rate of transmission in the state
- Statewide hospital capacity

CFAES Columbus Campus Library

The CFAES Columbus campus Library is open Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Information about the current services offered is available at <https://library.osu.edu/locations/faes>. 30 study seats and three public workstations are available. Please contact Florian Diekmann (diekmann.4@osu.edu) with any questions or concerns.

Common Areas for Students

Landing spaces for students have been set-up to follow COVID-19 guidelines. A list of the CFAES common areas can be found here: https://cfaes.osu.edu/sites/cfaes_main/files/site-library/site-images/CFAES%20Common%20Areas%20for%20Students.pdf

CABS Route Changes

In alignment with recommendations from the Safe Campus and Scientific Advisory Subgroup, Campus Area Bus Service (CABS) continues to limit occupancy to support safety and physical distancing guidelines. For students coming/going to our CFAES Columbus campus, please note:

- There are only two routes right now during the day. Additional routes are available after 7 p.m.
- MC-Med Center Express goes from West campus directly to the hub near the Herrick Drive Transit Hub and back but does not go past our Midwest bus stop.
- BL-Buckeye Loop: goes from the Buckeye lot (near Ackerman and Fred Taylor) in a loop that goes to the 4-H Center stop (new), Midwest campus stop (Woody Hayes), RPAC, and then back via Olentangy and Ackerman. It runs every 5 minutes during the day.

We are working with CABS to possibly expand routes in the coming weeks. For more information on routes, please visit: <https://ttm.osu.edu/news/2020/07/31/cabs-announces-route-changes-autumn-semester>. Alternative transportation is included on TTM's COVID response page: <https://ttm.osu.edu/covid-19-transportation-response>

Uptick in Phishing Attacks

As with the beginning of most school years, we have and will continue to see an increase in the number of electronic "phishing" attempts on students, faculty, and staff alike.

Phishing scams are a form of "Social Engineering," in which someone attempts to trick you into giving them your sensitive information – usernames and passwords, access to your computer, or even in some recent cases, false claims that attempt to extort money.

Many of these scams are carried out through email, but also often come through text messages, regular voice calls, or social media. Messages can look as if they have come from a familiar institution or an individual that you trust.

A common theme of these messages is to play on your emotions, sometimes including disturbing or enticing information that provoke you to act. They may try to create a false sense of urgency by saying "your account will be deleted," "you are over your email storage space," or "we have compromising information of you." They often urge you to act immediately to "update" or "verify" your account information. Often, they will urge you to send money or cash a check as well.

Some things you can do:

- Always think before you act. Be wary of communications that implore you to do so immediately or warns of negative consequences if you do not act now.
- If it looks suspicious (even if you know the person or source), please [contact the IT Service Desk](#) for verification and advice before taking any action.
- Do not provide your login credentials or any personal information. The Ohio State University will NEVER ask for your account information by email or phone.
- If you receive a suspected phishing message, please use the "Report Phishing" button to report it so that the message can be stopped from possibly fooling someone else! If you don't have access to the "Report Phishing" button, you can also forward the message to [report-](#)

phish@osu.edu.

Security Reminder

It is important to keep security in mind with less people occupying our buildings. Please keep offices and labs locked when working alone or leaving even for a brief period of time. For questions about buildings/safety contact:

- Building Coordinators
- Kent McGuire (Columbus and Statewide), McGuire.225@osu.edu, 614-292-0588 Office / 740-341-7589 Mobile
- Seth Walker (Wooster), Walker.439@osu.edu, 330-263-3665 Office

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