

Subject: Dean's Update
Date: Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 12:23:02 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean
To: CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean via Cfaes-all
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, Request for Office Hours Form Spring 2021.pdf

CFAES Community,

We are in our third week of the spring semester and our first week of in-person teaching. Thank you to those who adjusted their teaching plans to accommodate the delayed return to in-person and to all our faculty and staff across the state for following safety guidelines that allow critical in-person work to continue.

- **We continue to apply extraordinary safeguards for in-person activities.** Students are being tested weekly, physical distancing is being maintained, spaces are being regularly cleaned and we continue to require masking. For those who need to work on campus or in-person, keeping density down is an important element of our public health best practices. Continued flexibility is advised where feasible in work assignments to support our critical on-campus teaching, research, operations, and OSU Extension programming. We will continue to monitor current circumstances. Ohio State data over the past six months demonstrates that COVID cases among the university community have overwhelmingly originated from social situations, not from our classrooms or workspaces.
- **The university's vaccination plan will evolve based on state requirements and priorities.** We are actively planning for expanded vaccine distribution for students, faculty, and staff as soon as it is allowed by the state of Ohio and subject to the availability of vaccine doses. As President Johnson reflected in her [message](#) Friday, we have scheduled town halls to address questions about this topic, starting **Monday, Feb. 1 at 5:30 p.m.** Please bookmark the [Safe and Healthy Buckeyes vaccination page](#) for more information including distribution guidelines, and vaccination phases.
- **Planning for summer term and the coming academic year:** Ohio State has a collective vision set on a safe return to campus activities. Led by our colleges and the Office of Academic Affairs, teams are focused on summer 2021 and autumn 2021 planning. We expect to offer more specific guidance in coming weeks.

It remains critically important to keep following public health protocols – even if you receive the vaccine. That means continuing to wear masks, practicing physical distancing, avoiding large gatherings and consistently cleaning your hands. Together As Buckeyes, we will continue to do our part to have a safe and healthy spring semester – and beyond.

There are still spots open to join me during my open office hours. I've appreciated the conversations since I don't get to see as many of you in person. To sign up for my spring office hours, please complete the attached request in its entirety and send it to cfaesdean@osu.edu. For now, appointments will be held via Zoom for 25-minute sessions.

Be Well.
Dean Cathann Kress

Update includes:

- CFAES Spirit of the Land-Grant Award
- Town Hall for Provost Search
- Education for Citizenship: 'Race and Democracy in America'
- Public Safety resources
- R1095-C tax Form Coming Soon

- Workday Time Off and Leaves of Absence
- Research Grants to Support Student Academic Success
- Walk into the New Year with Gratitude
- Applications Open for the 2021 Leadership Awards
- Cloud Retention Deadline Extended to February 5
- New in CarmenCanvas for Spring 2021
- New Digital Accessibility Tools Online Now
- Inaugural Sustainability Institute Energy Symposium
- Graduate and Professional Student Ombudsperson Named
- CFAES Virtual Career Fair Week (February 16-18)

CFAES Spirit of the Land-Grant Award

Nominations are now open for the 2021 CFAES Spirit of the Land-Grant Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize an individual who supports, exemplifies or creates opportunities that embody the land grant mission. The award celebrates the connection between our CFAES values and our land-grant DNA. Therefore, nominees should have a clear record of supporting, exemplifying or creating opportunities around one or more of the following land-grant DNA areas: Translational Research, Collaboration and Engagement, Students as Co-creators, Lifespan Learning and Future Perspective. The award is open to CFAES faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students, alumni and external partners (including partners across campus and outside of the university). Nominations are due **February 19, 2021**. For more information on the award and the nomination form, please visit: <https://students.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/spirit-of-the-land-grant>

Town Hall for Provost Search

Two virtual town halls will be held on **Wednesday, February 3**. A session will be held for faculty and staff from 2-3 p.m. and another for students from 3-4 p.m. to gather input on the search for Ohio State's next executive vice president and provost. Town hall sessions will include remarks by the search committee co-chairs, followed by a discussion on the academic environment and the desired qualifications of the next executive vice president and provost. The input will be used to inform the leadership profile of our next academic leader. More information and the link to join the session are available on the Human Resources website. [Read more.](#)

Education for Citizenship: 'Race and Democracy in America'

Join the next Education for Citizenship discussion from **6-7 p.m. this evening, Jan. 28**, to explore "Race and Democracy in America." President Kristina M. Johnson will introduce a panel discussion lead by Tina Pierce of the John Glenn College of Public Affairs and the Columbus Board of Education. Panelists include faculty members Rachel Kleit, Wendy Smooth and Winston C. Thompson. [Read more.](#)

Public Safety resources

Ohio State's Department of Public Safety has an updated and more comprehensive safety resources webpage that includes apps, classes and other tools from across the university and nearby neighborhoods. Everyone can learn how to Survive an Active Aggressor and gain access to a free virtual guardian app. Students can discover ridesharing discounts and where to obtain free window and door alarms. Please take a moment to read and help make safety a top priority for all Buckeyes. [Read more.](#)

1095-C tax Form Coming Soon

Your 1095-C is a required tax form that provides important information about the health care coverage you had or were offered by Ohio State during 2020. If you provided consent to receive the form electronically, it will be available from Equifax with secure access through Workday. Equifax will email you when your 1095-C is available this week. If you did not consent, the form will be sent to your home address on file in Workday. [Read more.](#)

Workday Time Off and Leaves of Absence

Employees and managers may request both time off and leaves of absence from the Workday Absence calendar. A Time Off request is generally used for short-term absences, such as vacation or sick, and is approved locally by a manager (with a few exceptions). A Leave of Absence request is used for long-term absences, such as Family and Medical Leave (FMLA), Medical Leave (non-FMLA), or Other Leave of Absence (e.g., personal leave), and most of these requests are approved by central HR staff with the exception of Other Leave of Absence, which is approved by managers. Please be sure to select the appropriate option for your next time off or leave of absence. [Read more.](#)

Research Grants to Support Student Academic Success

Proposals are being sought for the [Student Academic Success Research \(SASR\) Grants Program](#), which seeks to address topics such as students' initial enrollment in college, academic performance, or retention and graduation. Projects are encouraged to focus on one of the following areas: academic technology, underrepresented minority students, open-access campus students (including regional campus and community college transfer students), collaboration with an Ohio State practitioner, or multi-university studies. Proposals are due by **Friday, March 19**. [Learn more and apply.](#)

Walk into the New Year with Gratitude

It's American Heart Month and what better way to take care of your body's hardest working muscle than by combining two things that support heart health – physical activity and gratitude! This Your Plan for Health team walking challenge will encourage you to keep moving and will provide weekly prompts to show your appreciation for co-workers, family, neighbors and, most of all, yourself. Earn up to 2,500 points for participating in the challenge that runs Feb. 1-28. [Log into the portal](#) to create or join a team. [Read more.](#)

Applications Open for the 2021 Leadership Awards

Do you know an outstanding leader at Ohio State who should be recognized for their hard work? Applications are now open for the 2021 Student Life Leadership Awards. Over the past 61 years, Ohio State has recognized hundreds of students, advisors and organizations who demonstrate leadership, collaboration and a commitment to the Ohio State community. In addition to applications, many of our awards now accept nominations on the behalf of deserving leaders. Please encourage your students to apply and nominate outstanding Buckeyes yourself. **Applications close Feb. 1.** [Read more.](#)

Cloud Retention Deadline Extended to February 5

We previously announced that the Zoom cloud retention rate would change from 270 days to 120 days beginning December 18. However, we have managed to extend the date of that change to **February 5, 2021**. Now beginning February 5, new meetings and webinars recorded to the Zoom cloud will remain for 120 days. Also, all existing recordings will be removed once they pass the 120-day mark. [Read more.](#)

New in CarmenCanvas for Spring 2021

While you are preparing for the upcoming spring semester, you will notice a few improvements and changes within CarmenCanvas, including the new Rich Content Editor, a new view option in the Gradebook, and enhancements to assignments for students. [Read more.](#)

New Digital Accessibility Tools Online Now

Imagine how difficult it would be to do your job if you were no longer able to use your mouse. Users with very different levels of motion, vision, neurological and auditory abilities visit our websites every day. Digital Accessibility Services has launched a new website that provides you with the resources you need to ensure all users can access Ohio State's digital content. [Read more.](#)

Inaugural Sustainability Institute Energy Symposium

The Sustainability Institute will host its inaugural energy symposium, Energy Transition and Decarbonization, Feb. 10-11, beginning at 1 p.m. Join us as we explore the monumental challenges in the needed energy

transition, interdisciplinary research at Ohio State to advance sustainability energy and steps the university is taking to address climate change. [Read more.](#)

Graduate and Professional Student Ombudsperson Named

Rebeka Campos-Astorkiza, an associate professor of Hispanic linguistics, has been named the inaugural graduate and professional student ombudsperson. In this newly created role, she will offer another central, independent resource to the Ohio State community. The office of the graduate and professional ombudsperson will officially open Feb. 1. [Read more.](#)

CFAES Virtual Career Fair Week (February 16-18)

We have over 100 employers and organizations scheduled to meet with students about internships, jobs, grad school, and so much more. Please share the links and info below with your students so they can start exploring some of the possibilities these groups have to offer. Questions? Contact us at cfaes-careers@osu.edu.

Student Career Fair To-Do List:

1. Pre-Register at the following links. (Required!)
 - a. [Construction Career Fair on Tuesday, February 16 from 1-5pm](#)
 - b. [Environmental & Sustainability Career Fair on Wednesday, February 17 from 1-5pm](#)
 - c. [Food and Agricultural Sciences Career Fair on Thursday, February 18 from 1-5pm](#)
2. Select your 1:1 conversations (10 minutes) or group info sessions (30 minutes) with employers
 - a. [Guild to Signing Up for and Managing Virtual Fair Sessions](#)
3. Show up on day of event in Handshake!
 - a. [Guide to Attending a Virtual Career Fair](#)

Event Facts and Tips:

1. No waiting in lines. You set your own schedule between 1-5pm.
2. Employers are recruiting for internships, jobs, part-time work, grad schools, and more!
3. More company interview timeslots added every day!
 - a. It will look like some employers do not have times available. They are working on it. Please be sure to check Handshake regularly, as employers are continuing to add sessions the closer we get to the event.
 - b. Follow an employer to be notified when they add more sessions to their schedule.

**If you have a Disability and rely on a screen reader or the keyboard for access to your computer you will experience difficulty using this application. As the University works with Handshake to improve accessibility, please contact handshake@osu.edu for assistance in navigating and using this application. A member of our team will respond within 2 business days to assist you.*

Dean Cathann A. Kress, Ph.D.

Vice President for Agricultural Administration & Dean

College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

140 Ag Administration | [2120 Fyffe Road](#) | [Columbus, OH 43210](#)

614-292-6164 Office

kress.98@osu.edu

Twitter: @cathannkress

