

**Subject:** [cfaes-all] Dean's Update  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 4:57:06 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** Cfaes-all on behalf of CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean via Cfaes-all  
**To:** CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean via Cfaes-all  
**Attachments:** image001.png, image002.png, ATT00001.txt

CFAES community,

I hope everyone's new year is off to a great start and I know we hope many of the challenges of 2020 will soon be behind us. Over the holidays, I spent time reflecting on things I am grateful for and many of them come back to our CFAES community.

I am grateful to our faculty and staff for embracing technology and safety protocols to continue the vital work of our college, for shifting to online learning and allowing our students to continue their education, and for your persistence while balancing competing priorities with family needs and concerns of your loved one's health and safety.

With more than 1,000 active projects managed by OSP, almost 200 capacity funded projects and over \$50 million dollars in competitive research grants, our research community sustained research activities, on all three of our campuses (Columbus, CFAES Wooster, and Statewide) to find real-world solutions to the grand challenges facing Ohio and beyond.

I am thankful for our OSU Extension professionals on-campus and around the state for their innovation and creativity educating constituents, minimizing COVID-19's impact on agricultural production, protecting our food supply chain, and building connections with youth.

I am appreciative of our student's flexibility, patience and resiliency as they spent most of the year in imperfect and unusual learning environments. Our students handled each change and challenge with perseverance and determination.

Much of what we achieved in this challenging year would not have been possible without our generous stakeholders, alumni, donors and partners who helped raise a record-breaking \$40.82 million for student scholarships, research support, emerging priorities, and more. One example of that is an anonymous gift, which created a \$100,000 Student Emergency Fund, helping our CFAES Wooster students with needs beyond tuition which arose from the COVID-19 pandemic. That same donor provided an additional \$400,000 worth of support to enhance our students' ability to be prepared to enter the workforce, aligning industry needs with our efforts.

In addition, in late December we learned that the additional 5% reduction to our Extension and Agricultural research lines (after the initial 5% reduction in FY2020) enacted by the State of Ohio this past October would be eliminated, restoring our funding to 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter levels for Extension and Agricultural research. We also received word that in the State Capital request, we received \$6M for the Fisher Auditorium renovation.

I also am grateful that as a community, we continue to affirm our [CFAES Principles of Community](#) and our conviction that racism and inequality have no place in CFAES. I appreciate the many thoughtful discussions, openness to listening to one another, and actions taken to ensure we not only affirm, but live our principles.

As we conclude our sesquicentennial year, it's clear that our cornerstone college continues its traditions of innovative scholarship, a "students-first" philosophy, and deep and meaningful engagement with our communities. I am grateful for your dedication to our college, our university, and our state and the critical mission we are all dedicated to serving – we sustain life. Together as Buckeyes.

I wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy New Year.

Dean Cathann Kress

Updates include:

- CFAES Virtual Holiday Event Recording
- USDA Sexual Harassment Notification Process
- Extension of Vacation Accrual Exception
- Statewide Curfew Extended
- Travel Restrictions Extended
- Continuation of Hiring Pause Procedures
- Workday Resources
- Encourage Student Use of The Ohio State: Wellness App
- CFAES DEI Newsletter
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Activities
- National Day of Racial Healing
- Bucks for Charity
- Resources for Teaching and Learning
- New Rich Content Editor, Assignment Enhancements Coming to CarmenCanvas for Spring 2021
- Undergraduate Student Trustee Search
- Distinguished Staff Award Nominations
- University Outreach and Engagement Awards
- Distinguished Diversity Enhancement Award Nominations
- InFACT Linkage and Leverage Seed Grants
- Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) Ohio Chapter Awards

#### **CFAES Virtual Holiday Event Recording**

If you weren't able to join us for the CFAES Virtual Holiday event, *Sustaining Life and Laughter - Finding Literal Joy in our Virtual Lives*, the recording is now available at: <https://youtu.be/9QluMUuHliM>

#### **USDA Sexual Harassment Notification Process**

USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is committed to ensuring equal opportunity in all its programs and activities. NIFA prohibits harassment of any kind, including sexual harassment at institutions who are recipients of federal funding and in any federally assisted program or activity. [Read more.](#)

#### **Extension of Vacation Accrual Exception**

Many faculty and staff have not been able to use vacation time in 2020 and risk losing vacation accrued that exceeds the maximum carryover. In appreciation for all that our employees have done the decision was made to extend the exception to the maximum carryover to the end of the current fiscal year, June 30, 2021. This extension provides employees flexibility to use accrued vacation over the maximum until their anniversary date that occurs after July 1, 2021. For more information you can visit [HR COVID-19 FAQ page](#) under Leave, questions 5 and 6 or you can speak to your HR Consultant.

#### **Statewide Curfew Extended**

Governor DeWine has extended the 10 p.m.-5 a.m. statewide curfew through Jan. 23. Read more information about impacts to students, faculty and staff on the Safe and Healthy Buckeyes website. [Read more.](#)

#### **Travel Restrictions Extended**

Following the public health guidance of local, state and federal officials, **the university has extended the current restrictions on domestic and international travel through June 30, 2021.** More information will be shared later this week or early next week about an exception process.

### Continuation of Hiring Pause Procedures

As we transition to WorkDay, hiring managers are now able to directly create hiring requisitions. However, **an approved exception is still required** and should be obtained prior to creating a requisition. Please follow the hiring pause exception procedures and contact your HR consultant with any questions.

### Workday Resources

More information on the WorkDay transition, job aids, training, and links to services can be found in the [Administrative Resource Center \(ARC\)](#).

- For HR support contact: [CFAESHR@osu.edu](mailto:CFAESHR@osu.edu)
- For Finance support, contact your fiscal officer. If additional support is needed, contact: Desiree [Lutsch.11@osu.edu](mailto:Lutsch.11@osu.edu) or Lisa [Simpson.613@osu.edu](mailto:Simpson.613@osu.edu)

### Encourage Student Use of The Ohio State: Wellness App

The Ohio State: Wellness app is a resource created to help students build well-being skills, understand their options and connect to care more easily. Sharing the app with the students you instruct, advise or work with at the start of the semester can be helpful encouragement for them to explore well-being resources early and get support if they need it. The Wellness app can be downloaded [using this link](#).

### CFAES DEI Newsletter

The CFAES Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is pleased to announce that they will be circulating a monthly newsletter starting on **Wednesday, January 13, 2021**. The newsletter will feature upcoming events, information on professional development webinars, and resources to help support the CFAES community in their efforts to cultivate a welcoming and equitable environment for people from all walks of life. If you would like to sign up for the DEI newsletter, please send an email to [CFAES-DEI@osu.edu](mailto:CFAES-DEI@osu.edu) to be added to the mailing list.

### Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Activities

- Join over 1,000 Buckeyes in honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and make **Monday, January 18, 2021** a day on instead of a day off. Come connect with your fellow Buckeyes and engage in service with the greater Columbus community. [Learn more](#).
- CFAES is proud to sponsor the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Breakfast - the largest event of its kind in the United States honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. [Learn more](#) about the flagship event on MLK Jr. Day, the national holiday commemorating Dr. King the fallen civil rights leader.

### National Day of Racial Healing

CFAES will be joining the [W.K. Kellogg Foundation's National Day of Racial Healing](#) taking place on January 19, 2021. CFAES will engage around the topic of racial healing in a variety of ways starting with a facilitated discussion of the movie [13<sup>th</sup>](#) from 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. In [13<sup>th</sup>](#), filmmaker Ava DuVernay addresses the history of racial inequality in the United States, focusing on the fact that the nation's prisons are disproportionately filled with African Americans. [13<sup>th</sup>](#) is available free on [YouTube](#). Participants are asked to view the film ahead of the discussion. The discussion of [13<sup>th</sup>](#) will be followed by a presentation on *The Inner Work of Racial Justice* from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. followed by panel discussion on Racial Healing from 1:15 - 2:45 p.m. The culminating event at 3:00 p.m. will be viewing the live stream of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation National Day of Racial Healing. Registration is required for all events. We encourage faculty, staff, and students to share their ideas for racial healing on social media using the [#HowWeHeal](#) and [#CFAESHowWeHeal](#). For more information, please go to <https://equityandinclusion.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/webinars-and-other-events/cfaes-national-day-racial-healing>.

## **Bucks for Charity**

Thank you to everyone who supported the CFAES [Bucks for Charity](#) campaign. The total raised by CFAES was \$31,301 surpassing our goal by nearly \$10,000. Buckeyes have a great reputation of paying forward, and we are continuing that legacy by giving back to the central Ohio community. Together, we made a significant contribution to the organizations that support our families, friends, and neighbors. Thank you again for your support of Bucks for Charity.

## **Resources for Teaching and Learning**

The Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning and the Office of Distance Education and eLearning continue to be primary resources for instructors as you prepare for spring. The Keep Teaching "Get Started" page has been refreshed for spring semester: <https://keep-teaching.osu.edu/get-started>.

Please utilize [Keep Teaching](#) and the [Drake Institute](#) websites for information about upcoming events and current resources about all manner of topics to support teaching and learning. Upcoming events include:

- At 2 p.m. **Wednesday (Jan. 6)**, the [Setting Up Your Course in Carmen](#) workshop will explore best practices for sharing syllabi, using Gradebook, posting resources and communicating with students online.
- At 2 p.m. **Thursday (Jan. 7)**, the [Supporting Physical and Virtual Environments in Hybrid and In-Person Classes](#) workshop will focus on how to address challenges for instructors and students in multi-modal courses and resources that support in-person and hybrid instruction.
- Throughout the day on **Friday (Jan. 8)**, the Drake Institute will host a number of workshops during [New Faculty Welcome](#) that are open to the university community. These include sessions on Enriching Your Clinical Instructional Practices, Carmen Common Sense, Inclusive Teaching: Foundational Principles, Inclusive Teaching: Responding to -isms in the Classroom and Integrating Active Learning in Large Lecture Courses
- At 1 p.m. **Friday (Jan. 8)**, Ohio State faculty are invited to learn about [preparing for promotion and tenure](#). Vice Provost Helen Malone will share an overview of the process, including what documentation is needed.

## **New Rich Content Editor, Assignment Enhancements Coming to CarmenCanvas for Spring 2021**

While you are preparing for the upcoming spring semester, you will notice a few feature enhancements and changes within the learning management system. The most prominent change will be the [new Rich Content Editor \(RCE\)](#). Along with this change, enhancements will be enabled for student assignments and there will be slight changes to the Gradebook and the Upload/Record Media button in the RCE. Learn more: <https://it.osu.edu/news/2020/12/02/new-rich-content-editor-assignment-enhancements-coming-carmencanvas-spring-2021>

## **Undergraduate Student Trustee Search**

Do you know an undergraduate student who excels as a leader, is an Ohio resident and plans to attend Ohio State through May 2023? They could be the next student representative on the university's Board of Trustees! Please encourage potential candidates to apply or reach out to the Board Office with questions. The application and more details about the role are available on the board's website. Applications are due Feb. 1. [Read more.](#)

## **Distinguished Staff Award Nominations**

Nominate exceptional staff members who have made an impact at Ohio State. The Distinguished Staff Awards recognize and celebrate staff for their significant achievements, leadership, dedication and service to the university. It is the highest honor for Ohio State staff members and 12 recipients are annually selected. Each recipient receives a \$1,500 cash award, an increase of \$700 to his or her base salary and a commemorative trophy. **The nomination deadline is Feb. 12 at 5 p.m.** [Read more.](#)

## **University Outreach and Engagement Awards**

The university is seeking nominations of programs, scholars and community partners for the 2021 University Outreach and Engagement Awards, which honor faculty, staff, students and community partners for outstanding achievement in producing engaged scholarship and community impact. Awards will be given in three categories: Community Engaged Program, Community Engaged Scholar and Community Partner. **Apply by Jan. 8.** [Read more.](#)

### **Distinguished Diversity Enhancement Award Nominations**

The Distinguished Diversity Enhancement Award celebrates diversity and recognizes individuals and groups for their commitment to enhancing diversity at Ohio State. Faculty, staff, students, student organizations and alumni can nominate their colleagues and peers. Up to five recipients receive a commemorative trophy and \$1,200 cash award. Honorees are rewarded for making diversity and inclusiveness a part of university best practices. Nominations are due by Feb. 12 at 5 p.m. [Read more.](#)

### **InFACT Linkage and Leverage Seed Grants**

The Initiative for Food and AgriCultural Transformation (InFACT) invites you to submit proposals for our Linkage and Leverage seed grant program. Teams of faculty, staff, students and external partners may apply. There are three cycles for proposal submission during the 2020-21 academic year. Winter cycle proposals are due Jan. 15. [Read more.](#)

### **Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) Ohio Chapter Awards**

Congratulations to the following OSU Extension professionals on receiving the following awards:

- ESP Distinguished Team Award Winner
  - Teen Mental Health Retreat: Amanda Raines, Justin Bower, Heather Gottke, Theresa Ferrari
- ESP Special Chapter Recognition Awards
  - Diversity/Multi-Cultural – Individual: Kayla Oberstadt, State 4-H
  - Diversity/Multi-Cultural – Team: Adventure Central
  - Meritorious Support Service: Vickie Snyder, Extension Operations unit
  - Retiree Service: Vicki Schwartz, OSU Extension Emeritus
  - Visionary Leadership: Eric Barrett, Mahoning County
  - Continued Excellence: Greg Davis, Extension Administration
  - Administrative Leadership: Bruce Clevenger, Defiance County
  - Ruby Distinguished Service: Jackie Wilkins, Extension Administration
- CES (Chi Epsilon Sigma) Dorothy Rex Inspiration Award (Extension org for support staff)
  - Christina Byrd, office associate, Franklin County
- Extension Support Staff Excellence Recognition
  - Vicki Myers, Extension Operations unit
- Marilyn Spiegel Excellence in Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Award
  - Shannon Carter, Fairfield County
- Raymond A. Schindler Excellence in Community Development Award

- Joe Lucente, Lucas County
- Steve D. Ruhl Outstanding Agriculture and Natural Resources County Extension Educator Award
  
- Ted Wiseman, Perry County
- Charles W. Lifer Excellence in 4-H Award
  
- Beth Boomershine, Franklin County
- ESP Excellence in Extension Award
  
- Theresa Ferrari, Extension specialist, state 4-H office

**Dean Cathann A. Kress, Ph.D.**

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