

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](#)
Subject: [cfaes-all] CFAES Transition Team Update
Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 10:40:40 AM
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CFAES Faculty and Staff:

Our college has several transition teams (including Work/Life/HR, Academics and Student Experience, Operations and Research/Extension Missions) actively synthesizing guidance from OAA, OHR, and FOD to provide localized guidance to departments and units. Our return to office/campuses plans will balance reopening in-person activities while weighing risk and safety. It will be critical to follow guidelines as they emerge, including wearing masks, physical distancing, and sanitizing, to safely expand activity. Again, this is not a return to normal. We need to continue thinking about safely doing our work across mission areas under COVID restrictions.

In-Person Events

As you know, in-person events have been canceled University-wide through July 6th. During our COVID-19 transition planning, the CFAES community has been anxious to receive guidance on in-person events as we begin phased returns to offices, campuses, and limited in-person activities. For our college, educational programming done with clientele across our three campuses is a critical part of our mission. We also host events of various sizes at many of our facilities. As we approach the holiday weekend, we wanted to share that we will not have an announcement effective July 7th allowing return to in-person programming beyond what has already been approved.

Our college leadership team is awaiting information from the University and State of Ohio. While you may see some general announcements from the University about events, please know that we will have to interpret what they mean for our work in CFAES and work with our personnel to provide guidance specific to our programs, people, and facilities. By the end of next week, we will plan to have more guidance to share with you for in-person programming and events for the period starting July 13th.

Electrostatic Sprayers Used to Disinfect Campus

FOD in Columbus is using new electrostatic sprayers for disinfecting around campus including cleaning high touch points multiple times a day. See their work in action: <https://twitter.com/ohiostatefod/status/1276266523817119745?s=21>. The Wooster campus also has these new electrostatic sprayers on order and will start using them as soon as they arrive.

Mask On/Masks Off Guidance

Updated guidance from the university on the wearing of masks includes:

- Masks On - masks are required in both public and common spaces within offices/buildings.
- Masks Off - masks can be removed when you are ALONE in your own personal office with the door closed. Masks are also optional in outdoor spaces where 6-foot physical distancing can be achieved.

Work/Life/HR Update

The Work/Life/HR subgroup worked with Extension LOD unit to deploy the “return to campus” survey for all CFAES faculty and staff. They are now reviewing the information received to take into account as we plan for phased repopulation of campuses.

Academics & Student Experience Update

A course inventory has been completed and master schedule changes are being conveyed to the Registrar. Classroom/Lab space assessments being used to ensure physical distancing requirements are met are nearly completed. These assessments will be used to inform/adjust master schedule room assignments.

The University College Academic Affairs Committee is developing an expedited course review process for DL - Au20. Dr. Steve Neal is serving on the committee developing this process.

The Academics & Student Experience subgroup is working on draft documents for FAQs, best practices, and resources for academics, advising, and student experience.

Operations & Research/Extension Missions Update

Stage 3 of the research lab reopening started on June 22. The process for limited Research/Extension Exemption process continues for those not already approved under stage 3. Limited increases in County Extension Operations started in early June and continue as additional needs are identified. Stage 4 for Research begins on July 13.

The operations team continues to support safety efforts including consulting with unit heads/faculty/staff, enhanced cleaning, and installing signage to reinforce key COVID practices and changes to building usage and flow.

We will continue to develop guidelines which balance risk and safety while allowing our fellow CFAES colleagues to meet the needs of our mission areas in this new COVID-19 era. The ability to move forward is dependent on how well our fellow citizens, both internally and externally, work together to keep infection rates low, minimize hotspots, and follow safety protocols to keep everyone healthy. Stay safe, and Go Bucks.

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