

Subject: [cfaes-all] Dean's Update
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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
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CFAES Community –

In her blog post “[...and that’s ok!!](#)” Alisha Barton, OSU Extension Educator, Miami County, explains that “when we tell ourselves and those around us that we love that it’s going to be ok we are creating HOPE.” I am truly inspired by the amount of HOPE that our people are bringing to their communities and the people of Ohio. While we may lose some of our hope through the unknowns, it is important to reflect on the wins we have achieved during this time of COVID. A few examples of successes across our CFAES community include:

- More guest speakers, better interaction, and the inclusion of academic mentors in classes.
- Creative ways for our students to maintain social interactions and “see” each other through virtual hangouts, virtual karaoke, Netflix watch parties, e-sport intramurals and virtual 5Ks.
- Several faculty “attended” and presented at scientific conferences that were held via zoom.
- Numerous manuscripts and grant proposals have been submitted to journals or agencies for peer review and funding.
- Working with our farmer clientele - answering phones providing recommendations for scouting and management.
- CFAES Lean on Your Land Grant Food Supply Chain Task Force was convened in early April, co-chaired by Dr. Zoe Plakias and Dr. Shoshanah Inwood, in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and resulting food system crisis affecting consumers, farmers, and businesses in Ohio.
- KX COVID-19 Hub saw 4,365 users in first month of launch.
- As of June 1, some 36,801 Ohioans had visited the [Ag Madness website](#), with 19,635 viewing a live webinar.
- Multiple research projects to address COVID-19 topics such as the use of animal models to study the virus, new polymer materials for use in face masks and other PPE, and disinfection methods. CFAES is home to a world expert in the general category of coronaviruses, of which COVID-19 is one type.
- Creating online materials to keep 4-Hers engaged and ready for fairs whether in-person or virtual.

And so much more. Thank you for all of the great work you have done – keep spreading hope.

Dean Cathann Kress

Updates include:

- CFAES Return to Offices and Campuses Website
- CFAES Transition Update
- Support for Instructors
- Additional Zoom Security Measures Coming July 30
- Safe and Healthy Buckeyes website
- Lean on Your Land-Grant Children's Incentive

CFAES Return to Offices and Campuses Website

CFAES has several college transition teams actively synthesizing university guidance to localize for CFAES departments and Units. To help organize the information we have created a website for [CFAES Return to](#)

[Offices and Campuses](#). The information will be updated as new guidance surfaces. Please visit and bookmark the website for information and further updates.

CFAES Transition Update

COVID-19 transition planning across our college and university for return to office/campuses continues. This pandemic has a fluid nature – as we make plans, they will change and sometimes quickly – based on changes in COVID cases, what we learn about the virus, and other key data points. Our priorities will continue to center on safety of our community and advancing our important work across our research, teaching, and Extension mission areas. CFAES return to office/campuses plans will seek to balance reopening in-person activities while weighing risk and safety. As we do so, please continue to think about safely doing our work across mission areas under COVID restrictions.

Our CFAES transition task force, along with many other groups across the college continue to use guidance emerging from the university to develop detailed plans for the coming weeks and months. A few highlights include:

- Repopulating campuses planning - unit leaders are actively working on plans across all of our campuses. One focus is Columbus, Wooster, and Piketon where we are aligning limited return to campus across our teaching, research and Extension mission areas, along with key in-person support needed. We are in a stage through early August with some activities approved by unit leaders and are making plans for what the August through the end of 2020 will look like. It will be a mix of low density in buildings for priority on-ground activities and telework continuing when possible. Part of the repopulation process includes taking into account the various needs and concerns of our faculty, staff and graduate students. Please check with your supervisor or unit leader if you have questions about this planning.
- Research reopening - entered Stage 4 on July 13 that is a continued focus of personnel approved to work in research labs with a goal of limiting density of people to 25%. Research labs have scheduled times to complete lab work and data analysis. Zoom meetings should be done via telework and not in offices.
- County Extension professionals have been serving the specific needs of our clientele throughout Ohio by providing ongoing virtual programming as well as limited office hours in county offices. They are preparing to offer in-person programs across Ohio in the near future.
- Academics and Students - many of our faculty and staff are working diligently to develop plans for fall semester on our Columbus and Wooster Campuses. We know that students will be back on campus, in-person classes will be smaller than 100, many courses will be online or hybrid, and a number of restrictions will be in place to keep students and all of us who work with students safe.
- In-Person programming and events - our CFAES team has worked with university guidance to develop a CFAES Events process for approving in-person programming and events. It includes two tracks: 1) In-person programming/educational events by our OSU professionals, and 2) the events organized at one of our 27 facilities or event centers by external customers. The process for both will be similar to the current Research and Extension Exemption approval including a form to submit, committee review, and additional guidance following approval. Instructions to complete the approval process will be forthcoming.

Support for Instructors

Two upcoming virtual workshops presented by the Michael V. Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning are designed to support instructors as they prepare for autumn semester.

- On **Thursday (July 23)** and again on **July 29**, the focus will be on [best practices for course design](#), whether for in person, online or blended teaching. These 3-hour workshops will take place at 1 p.m. on each day.

- On **July 31**, the focus will be on designing [accessible and effective assignments for both in-person and online teaching contexts](#). Participants will use backwards design to develop assignments that guide student learning in alignment with course goals and learning outcomes. The session is from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

In addition, three upcoming virtual town halls will bring together individuals from multiple campuses, colleges and units across the university to focus on Teaching for Student Success in Autumn and Beyond. Sessions are geared toward instructors and teaching assistants, but are open to all Ohio State faculty and staff. The town halls are:

- **July 28**, 3-4 PM: Reducing Stress and Building Connection
- **Aug. 4**, 3-4 PM: Creating Inclusive Learning Spaces, Wherever and However they Occur.
- **Aug. 11**, 3-4 PM: Integration Resources and Pathways for Support

To more information about the town halls, see the [registration website](#). (Registration is required.) These town halls have been developed in collaboration by the offices of Academic Affairs, Student Academic Success, Distance Education and E Learning, and the Drake Institute.

The Drake Institute also offers a number of rotating, small-group cohorts centered around instructional redesign, including [Teaching Information Literacy](#) (July 20-Aug. 9), [Carmen Common Sense](#) (July 27-31) and [Contemplative Pedagogies](#) (July 6-Aug. 14; instructors can join at any time).

Additional Zoom Security Measures Coming July 30

In an effort to increase security and privacy for the Ohio State community, all CarmenZoom meetings will **require a passcode beginning July 30**, and the change will prevent users from turning off the passcode going forward. Passcodes will be applied to previously scheduled meetings and Personal Meeting ID links. If you have any upcoming meetings without a passcode, you will need to edit those meetings, as well as your Personal Meeting ID. Updating your Zoom meetings before July 30 will create a much smoother experience for your attendees.

Read more: <https://it.osu.edu/news/2020/07/09/additional-zoom-security-measures-coming-july-30>

Contact: carmenzoom@osu.edu

Safe and Healthy Buckeyes website

The university launched the [Safe and Healthy Buckeyes website](#) to support the Ohio State community as we prepare for on-campus operations. The site includes information and details related to physical distancing, campus readiness, classrooms, workspaces, housing, dining, personal protection and hygiene, mental health and wellness resources, travel and several other areas. The university will continue to evaluate recommendations based on evolving conditions, and the site will reflect any updates.

Lean on Your Land-Grant Children's Incentive

Packets should be arriving soon. Want to help share some positivity – about our college, your family, and our response to the virus? Post photos of your children with their Lean on Your Land Grant COVID-19 Task Force “Essential Teammate” rewards on Twitter and Instagram. Use the hashtag #LandGrantTeammate. Let’s recognize all the good your children are doing in helping us continue to do our work—teaching, researching, securing Ohio’s food supply. If you have not signed up for a packet yet, visit:

https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6KhsnVuAUYgi97D

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