

**From:** [Cfaes-all](#) on behalf of [CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean via Cfaes-all](#)  
**To:** [Cochran, Graham via Cfaes-all](#)  
**Subject:** [cfaes-all] Dean's Update  
**Date:** Monday, June 22, 2020 11:15:41 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[ATT00001.txt](#)

---

CFAES Faculty and Staff:

I hope everyone took time on Friday or over the weekend to celebrate Juneteenth, reflect on the history of racial injustice in our country, and think about action steps we can take together to address persistent inequities. I will continue working with our “Council of Councils” (which provides our college structure of governance) to discuss how we will keep moving forward as a community. This Council brings together the leaders of [Faculty Advisory Council](#), [Staff Advisory Council](#), [Graduate Student Advisory Council](#), and the [CFAES \(Undergraduate\) Student Council](#) if you haven’t already shared what you think our community should do, and what actions we should take, please engage with your respective representatives to have your voices heard.

There are several updates below regarding our return-to-office plans. I want to reiterate that we are balancing reopening in-person activities with risk and safety. Following guidelines as they emerge, including wearing masks, physical distancing, and sanitization, will be a critical part of our success in safely expanding activity. Please keep in mind, this is not a return to normal. We need to continue thinking about safely doing our work across mission areas under COVID restrictions.

Have a good week and be well.

Dean Cathann Kress

**This update includes:**

- Additional Check-ins with Dr. Dickerson Reminder
- University Health Reporting Pilot Reminder
- Transition Update
- HIPAA Reminder
- Travel Restrictions Extended Through December
- ODEE Course Catalog Updates

**Reminder: Additional Check-ins with Dr. Dickerson**

As CFAES Buckeyes, we continue to affirm our commitment to our university values of inclusion, diversity and tolerance as well as our commitment to adhering to and promoting anti-racism in the spirit of community, diversity, and inclusive excellence. Last week Dr. Patrice

Dickerson began the “Community of Color Check-ins” and announced additional sessions. If you have not yet registered, you can do so [here](#).

### **University Health Reporting Pilot Reminder**

Thank you again for your participation in the university’s Health Reporting Pilot. If you are reporting to campus or working in the community on behalf of the university, please log in to the health reporting tool via [compass.osu.edu](https://compass.osu.edu) or [the Ohio State app](#) to record your temperature and answer other health reporting questions. More details and answers to some common questions are available on the [Health Reporting Pilot webpage](#). Please contact Dr. Graham Cochran(.99) with any questions.

### **Transition Update**

COVID-19 transition planning continues throughout Ohio State and our college. President Drake provided some updates in his Saturday email. Our CFAES transition task force continues to use guidance emerging from the university to develop detailed plans for the coming weeks and months. Work underway involves many individuals and committees across our three campuses. A few highlights include:

- Research reopening – June 22 marks Stage 3 for research reopening with a gradual increase in personnel approved to work in research labs in Columbus, Wooster, and Piketon. This is in addition to activity previously approved through our research and Extension exemption process.
- County Extension operations phased reopening – during the month of June, limited additional activities in county Extension operations have been approved to serve specific needs of our clientele that cannot be accomplished via telework.
- Teaching, advising, and student experiences – planning for the fall semester continues. We know that students will be back on campus, in-person classes will be smaller than 100, and a number of restrictions will be in place to keep students and all of us who work with students safe. Many of our faculty and staff are working diligently to develop plans for the fall semester in Columbus and Wooster.
- In-Person programming and events - our CFAES team is working with university guidance to determine what can take place after July 6<sup>th</sup>.
- General return to offices – a group is working on what return to office for others in our college may look like. We expect a fuller return to operations on our three campuses this fall but with restrictions. Many employees who can work remotely will continue telework. Stay tuned for updates.
- Return to campus survey – please take a few minutes to complete the survey sent by Dr. Kitchel to all CFAES faculty and staff last week. We want to better understand your questions and concerns.

### **HIPAA Reminder**

Please remember: If you learn of a possible case of COVID-19, do not share the person's health information with colleagues. This is a violation of their privacy, and this information is protected by HIPAA and other laws. To report a COVID-19 case, contact your primary care physician. If you are a manager and receive a report, contact our HR business partners (Brandi Gilbert-Hammett.1 and Nicole Wakeley.1). In the face of this unprecedented pandemic, we must rely on regional public health officials to continue to investigate cases and trace potential contacts. To prevent the spread within a lab area or shared spaces, *everyone must assume and behave as the person before had COVID-19*. Remember that substantial spread of COVID19 can occur before a person begins to show symptoms.

### **Travel Restrictions Extended Through December**

To help slow the spread of COVID-19, the university has extended restrictions on [domestic and international travel](#) through Dec. 31, 2020. All previously approved travel prior to that date must be canceled. This includes all education abroad programs for autumn semester. The [exception process](#) for narrowly defined instances of business essential travel is spelled out on the Business and Finance website and must be pre-approved.

### **ODEE Course Catalog Updates**

Instructors can sign up now for [Introduction to Teaching Online](#), a two-week course delivered in CarmenCanvas. The course will introduce the key considerations for the online learning environment, including how to make decisions about course format and delivery, how to communicate with students and how to foster student interaction and create engaging activities. Courses for hybrid and distance-enhanced content are also in progress. For the most up-to-date list of workshops from the Office of Distance Education and eLearning, visit the [Keep Teaching website](#) or sign up for ODEE's bi-weekly newsletter at [go.osu.edu/odee-newsletter](http://go.osu.edu/odee-newsletter).

### **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](mailto:kress.98@osu.edu)  
Twitter: @cathankress



— *We Sustain Life* —

