

Subject: Dean's Update
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 8:58:40 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean
To: cfaes-all@lists.osu.edu
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CFAES Community,

As we approach the official first day of spring, there is much to feel optimistic about especially as we start thinking about the end of the academic year, [the recently announced in-person spring commencement](#), and the improving state of the pandemic. At the same time, we are all continuing to feel the toll of COVID-19. Stress, anxiety and depression are on the rise, and there has been a national increase in hate crimes targeting Asian, Pacific Islander, and Desi Americans (APISA) due to the pandemic ([see message from Vice Provost Moore](#)). We all need to continue to practice self-care and take care of one another.

- The second [instructional break](#) is March 31-April 1. No classes are to be held on those days and academic assignments should reflect that students are not expected to be completing work those days. Please honor the break, and remember that April 2 is a conversion day, so classes that normally take place on Wednesdays will be held that day.
- While students and 9-month faculty are not expected to work during the instructional break, many other employees will be working those days. In recognition of the stress that so many are feeling, managers should consider what they can do to lighten the burden — both during the instructional break and as a part of normal work cycles. Find ways to reduce the number of meetings, limit off-hours emails and consider what you can do to take care of your colleagues.
- Utilize the [Mental Health and Wellness](#) resources compiled by the university which include resources that can help build resiliency and enhance mental, emotional and physical health and well-being. You will also find information on mental health concerns to watch for and places to find help, resources that can assist with achieving work/school-life balance, financial wellness courses, and guidance for parenting during a pandemic.

Thank you for all your continued efforts and consideration of others in our CFAES community.

Be well.

Dean Cathann Kress

Updates include:

- Mark Your Calendar for the State of Academic Affairs
- Weekly Testing Available to Faculty and Staff Working on Campus Regularly
- Guidance for People Who Have Been Vaccinated
- The Ohio State University Day of Giving
- IT Purchasing Update
- Building Healthy Academic Communities Virtual Summit Registration
- Addressing Inequities in STEM Education
- *Shared Challenges to Shared Future: Finding the Way Forward* – US-China Agriculture Roundtable
- New Research Misconduct Policy Effective March 1
- Workday Grants Office Hours and More
- Planning Your Next Professional Development Opportunity and Need Funding?
- Raising Funds for CFAES and Cancer Research – Pelotonia Overview
- Healthy Air, Land and Water: How to Develop, Win and Execute Interdisciplinary Grants for Research

Mark Your Calendar for the State of Academic Affairs

Executive Vice President and Provost Bruce A. McPherson will present the [State of Academic Affairs](#) at the conclusion of the University Senate meeting on **Thursday, March 25**. The Senate meeting starts at 3:30 p.m. The provost's address and a moderated conversation will follow.

Weekly Testing Available to Faculty and Staff Working on Campus Regularly

Asymptomatic faculty and staff who are regularly working on the Columbus campus can now schedule weekly COVID-19 testing at Jesse Owens North Recreation Center via [MyChart](#). This new testing program is available due to increased capacity at the university's Applied Microbiology Services Laboratory (AMSL) and is meant to provide employees with an additional testing option and critical information to help themselves and members of their household feel safe. This program is not meant for intermittent, mid-quarantine or symptomatic testing. As a reminder, regional campus employees who are working in person are encouraged to test on their [campuses each week](#). [Read more](#).

Guidance for People Who Have Been Vaccinated

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released guidance](#) that says it is safe for fully vaccinated people to relax safety measures in non-public, indoor spaces when they are spending time with other fully vaccinated people. While this news is encouraging for those who have been vaccinated, it is important to remember that regardless of vaccination status, everyone on campus is still required to continue following safe and healthy behaviors, including wearing masks properly, staying at least six feet apart from others, avoiding crowds, washing hands often, testing when required and quarantining when directed. More guidance and FAQs for individuals who have been vaccinated is available on the [Safe and Healthy Buckeyes website's COVID-19 vaccine information page](#).

The Ohio State University Day of Giving

March 22 is The Ohio State University Day of Giving. This year, CFAES is highlighting the Waterman Agricultural and Natural Resources Laboratory Facilities Fund. Donations will support critical upgrades needed to ensure Waterman's continued momentum. Gifts will help improve student leadership opportunities, elevate research, and translate science into practical knowledge, which will turn Waterman into a model for sustainable food, agricultural, and environmental systems. The new and planned facilities will be the catalyst to ensure that we are on our way to getting every Ohio State student hands-on experience at Waterman. To learn more about CFAES' plans for Waterman or to make a gift visit dayofgiving.osu.edu/giving-day/34664/department/34742.

IT Purchasing Update

In light of the recent Workday release, we have collaborated with our colleagues in the CFAES Service Center to update our [IT Purchasing Guidance](#). This information can also be found under our [CFAES ITS website](#) in the section titled *Policies and Guidelines -> IT Transformation Finance Guidance*.

Building Healthy Academic Communities Virtual Summit Registration

The National Consortium for Building Healthy Academic Communities (BHAC) is hosting their National Summit – [Building Resilience](#) – virtually this year on **April 21 - 22, 2021**. History shows that those most adaptable people, teams, and organizations survive and thrive during challenging times. Learn from experts from across the country as they share best practices and experiences in resiliency, health equity, and adapting to the COVID-19 pandemic. [Learn more and register now](#).

Addressing Inequities in STEM Education

On **March 24**, Stephanie G. Adams, dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Texas at Dallas, will talk about why diversity matters in STEM, and how it promotes collaborative learning. The event is part of Our Inclusive Path Forward: Addressing Inequities in STEM Education, a seminar series about best practices for recruiting, retaining and graduating a diverse population of STEM students.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in these important conversations, which continue through mid-April. [Read more.](#)

***Shared Challenges to Shared Future: Finding the Way Forward* – US-China Agriculture Roundtable**

Together, how can the U.S. and China transform agriculture? Join Dean Cathann Kress and other experts in the U.S.-China Agricultural Roundtable on April 1st. [Sign up today.](#)

The United States Heartland China Association (USHCA) is proud to host the first virtual US-China agriculture roundtable in collaboration with its Chinese and American partners, beginning on March 23. The three-week event, which will feature an array of top leaders and thinker in food and agriculture, will focus on how agriculture can address major global challenges and stabilize bilateral relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China. [Learn more.](#)

New Research Misconduct Policy Effective March 1

As part of Ohio State's commitment to carry out its research mission, the Office of Research Compliance has worked with multiple stakeholders to revise the current University Policy and Procedures Concerning Research Misconduct. The new Research Misconduct Policy ensures that the university's processes for handling allegations of research misconduct are compliant with federal regulations and emerging best practices and protects the integrity and reputation of the university and its scholars from false or unproven allegations of research misconduct. This policy went into effect on March 1 and applies to all individuals involved with research activities. [Read more.](#)

Workday Grants Office Hours and More

Hopefully, you've had an opportunity to read the [OSP update](#) sent from the Office of Research which included Workday-related items. A few more items that may also be of help follow:

- **Grants Office Hours** – Tuesday, March 23, from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. [Use this link to join the office hours in Microsoft Teams.](#)
- Be first to hear about future events, join the Teams channel, **Workday for Grant Administration**, at go.osu.edu/WDforGrants.
- Principal investigators and grant managers can use Workday to look-up balances on their grants using dashboards and reporting. Check out these job aids on the ARC for a summary of dashboards and reports available for PIs, [Reporting Summary for Principal Investigators](#) and GMs, [Reporting Summary for Grants Administrators](#).
- To learn more about reporting in Workday, grant managers are encouraged to view, [Workday: Grants Management Reporting and Analysis](#) (recorded session), and principal investigators are encouraged to view, [Workday: The Grant Management Dashboard for Principal Investigators](#) (recorded session).
- eActivity Awards and Expenditures (Sponsor Costs only) reports are now available via Tableau Server. These reports cover activity since Workday was implemented in January 2021. Proposal reports and Expenditures including Cost Share will be available soon. The information available and the intended use of eActivity has not changed. However, there are some differences from the legacy eActivity reports including separate Summary and Detail reports. Visit [NewsLink](#) to learn more.

Thank you for your time and patience as we continue to work through this transition. Please note that the Enterprise Project mailbox is no longer being monitored for incoming questions. If you have any questions, please reach out to your SPO.

Planning Your Next Professional Development Opportunity and Need Funding?

Apply for a [Staff Career Development Grant](#). The grants, offered by the Office of Human Resources in partnership with the University Staff Advisory Committee, are a way to further and enhance your professional development. Applications for the Staff Career Development Grants will be accepted from **March 1 until March 31, 2021**. Eligible staff can apply for funding for professional development opportunities occurring between May 2021 through September 2021. Awards will be provided as a reimbursement of up to \$1,250

for individuals, \$1,750 for groups of 2-10, and \$2,000 for groups of 11 more. Please visit the [Gateway to Learning website](#) for eligibility requirements, scoring rubric, application instructions, a link to the application portal, and additional information. Webinars are also planned to help applicants through the application process and to answer any questions.

The Office of Human Resources offers a spectrum of resources, programs, and tools to support faculty and staff career growth and help them to do their best work. Visit gatewaytolearning.osu.edu for more information about professional development at Ohio State. You can also link [this flyer](#).

Raising Funds for CFAES and Cancer Research – Pelotonia Overview

Curious about how you can help fight cancer? There are many ways that you can by supporting CFAES research, including projects that involve cancer and medical research. Join Team Buckeye representatives on **Thursday, March 25, 1:00 p.m.** to learn more about Ohio State research initiatives, specifically Pelotonia, an annual bike ride to raise money for cancer research. This session will cover what the event is (including what it will look like this year) and how you can get involved at CFAES. There will be time at the end for audience questions. We hope you will join us!

This year, the team co-captains Gary Pierzynski (Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education) is training for his first 100 mile ride and Kayla Arnold (Graduate Education Coordinator) will be volunteering for her 8th year to help the cause. Whether you are interested in becoming a rider, volunteer, challenger, or just want to hear about what we're up to, come learn more about how you can support the CFAES Sustains Life Peloton! Register today: go.osu.edu/CFAESPelotoniaOverview

Healthy Air, Land and Water: How to Develop, Win and Execute Interdisciplinary Grants for Research

The Sustainability Institute invites you to "Healthy Air, Land and Water: How to Develop, Win and Execute Interdisciplinary Grants for Research." Join us on **Tuesday, March 30th from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** as we explore the steps involved in submitting winning grants as well as what to do once the grant has been awarded. Hosted by Healthy Air, Land and Water Research Co-Leads Jay Martin (FABE) and Linda Weavers (CEGE), this panel discussion will focus on the process involved in submitting proposals, how to find and work with collaborators and how to avoid the usual pitfalls. Pedro Alvarez from Rice University joins Ohio State's Berry Lyons and Robyn Wilson on the discussion panel.

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