

**From:** [Cfaes-all](#) on behalf of [Kress, Cathann A. via Cfaes-all](#)  
**To:** [cfaes-all@lists.osu.edu](mailto:cfaes-all@lists.osu.edu)  
**Subject:** [cfaes-all] Dean's Update  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 3:52:28 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
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CFAES Faculty and Staff:

With the warm weather we just had, it feels like summer is upon us. Hopefully, you have been able to spend some time enjoying the outdoors and you and your loved ones are staying healthy. I want to again thank you for your resiliency as we continue down this path of uncertainty and multiple challenges. As we continue to see things opening around the country and our state, it's easy to feel the pressures of reopening but it's important to remember we are in this for the long haul. As you will see in the transition planning update below, the university is using a phased approach focused on health and safety.

I also want to reiterate that just because we can work any time, does not mean that we should be working all the time. We all have stressors which can be exhausting, and on some days the unknowns can make it hard to stay optimistic or productive—remember to give yourself and those around you some grace. Take care of yourselves, your families and those around you. Wellness tips can be found through the [Human Resources Keep Well website](#), the [Chief Wellness Officer Health and Wellness page](#) and [Your Plan For Health](#).

Congratulations to three of our faculty in FST—Sheryl Barringer, Ken Lee, and Ahmed Yousef—on being named 2020 Fellows of the International Academy of Food Science and Technology (IAFoST) and congratulations to Renee Johnston in SENR for receiving a 2020 OSU Distinguished Staff Award.

Be well.  
Dean Cathann Kress

Updates Include:

- Transition planning
- State Fair
- CARES grant information
- Summer course fees
- Budget updates

### **TRANSITION PLANNING**

**All non-essential university employees are to continue teleworking and remain off campus. All employees must have permission and/or an exemption clarification to be on campus for any reason.**

We continue to plan for a return to on-campus operations using a phased approach focused on safety. The University's COVID-19 transition task force is working through several important considerations, updates are available on the [task force webpage](#). As a reminder, the university's goal is to announce a centralized operations plan for the autumn semester by mid-June. All in-person university events should remain canceled through July 6.

As you know, Governor DeWine has lifted the state's stay-at-home order and, in its place, issued an urgent health advisory that strongly encourages Ohioans to stay home. The state's restriction on most gatherings of 10 or more people remains in place. While the new health advisory lifts travel restrictions, it continues to discourage unnecessary travel within or outside Ohio. All university-sponsored international and non-essential domestic travel remains suspended. All travel that has been scheduled through June 30, 2020, must be canceled (see [guidelines](#)), and no new travel may be booked until further notice.

### **STATE FAIR**

Last week the Ohio Expositions Commission voted to cancel the 2020 Ohio State Fair. As a result, the 2020 Dean's Charity Steer Show will also be canceled.

I want to give a special shout out to 4-H and OSU Extension. Due to the cancellation of state fair and impacts on many of the county fairs, they are facing challenges with transitioning programming and managing expectations of disappointed constituents. We appreciate all they are doing.

### **CARES Grant**

Ohio State was awarded \$42.9 million from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to help mitigate financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. Of this total, \$21.4 million will be used to assist students experiencing financial hardships caused by the pandemic. The university also has set aside a portion of university donor funds to assist with this emergency. Learn more: <https://news.osu.edu/ohio-state-provides-14-million-in-student-support/>.

Encourage students to apply at: <https://sfa.osu.edu/contact-us/consumer-disclosure/COVID-19-aid>

### **BUDGET UPDATES**

As you are aware, Governor DeWine announced cuts of \$775 million to the state budget over the next two months. Among these was a \$110 million cut for the Department of Higher Education. At this time, we are working across the University to learn how the cuts will impact the operations of CFAES. We will share more information as we learn more. CFAES entered the current situation with a strong fiscal position as a college. We have created models for how we can reduce costs, defer expenses, and otherwise manage some of these cuts.

To help frame the impacts for CFAES, it is important to remember that state funding represents our largest income source. The largest sources of revenue come from the Department of Higher Education's operating budget, Cooperative Extension which supports our extension scholarship, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Centers which supports our research stations and research scholarship, and the State Share of Instruction (SSI) which supports Ohio universities' costs for teaching.

The University wide impact to State Share of Instruction (SSI) is \$14.9 million. The impact to CFAES and how the University might deal with this is unclear at this time.

State Line items for OSU Extension and Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Centers (OARDC) were consistent with other cuts in the Ohio Department of Higher Education's budget. The cut for FY20 is 5% of the full year allocation. As we move into FY21, we anticipate further cuts to these line items.

The University wide funding for the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) was reduced by 7.28%, resulting in a \$8.9 million cut. In FY19, our college had 441 students who received \$558,519 from this funding source. It is unclear how the actual reduction would occur, but if we use the 7.28% reduction this could impact our students by approximately \$41,000.

The Ohio Sea Grant and Stone Laboratory was reduced by \$14,962.

Our partners in County Government are also facing difficult budget situations. County governments are primarily funded by revenue from sales and property taxes, which have diminished heavily in the past two months and are likely to lag in tax receipts for the near future.

We continue to advocate to our federal lawmakers, along with other land-grant institutions and external partners, for supplemental funding to NIFA that would support vital research and extension programs, and provide additional flexibility to county governments in their budget decision-making.

We are committed to communicating information related to our budget situation, as well as how our college might respond, to you in a timely fashion.

Thank you again for all of the work that you do on behalf of our college and in support of our statewide community.

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

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