

Subject: [cfaes-all] Dean's Update
Date: Friday, November 20, 2020 at 4:58:14 PM Eastern Standard Time
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, cfaes-pdoc@lists.osu.edu
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, ATT00001.txt

CFAES Colleagues,

I hope most of you have had an opportunity to read [President Johnson's email](#) from yesterday. Below are a few highlights from her message as well as current updates related specifically to our work within CFAES. We will continue to provide updates as guidance is modified. I also recommend regularly checking the Safe and Healthy Buckeyes website <https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu/> for updates.

The end of the semester is a challenging time in and of itself and these changing guidelines are coming at a time of great stress, where many are trying to balance work with family needs, many are feeling overwhelmed and some are at their breaking points. I know it is hard to find the time with everything going on but please remember to take care of yourselves including your emotional and mental health. I find that even a five-minute walk between Zoom meetings or walking around my house or office when I'm on a call can help me refocus, refresh, and recharge. Remember to utilize the [wellness resources](#) available for the Ohio State community. Remember that your health and safety and that of those around you is the first priority.

I appreciate everything you are doing for our students, for each other, for our communities and for our safety – Together as Buckeyes.

Be well.

Dean Cathann Kress

This update includes:

- Statewide Curfew, Franklin County and Columbus Health Advisory

- Classes Move to Online or Other Forms of Distance Learning

- Guidelines, Facilities, and Hours
- Events and Gatherings
- Research Activities
- Academic Calendar Changes for Spring Semester

Statewide curfew, Franklin County and Columbus Health Advisory

A 21-day statewide curfew from 10 p.m.-5 a.m. began yesterday, Nov 19. Additionally, a 28-day health advisory for the City of Columbus and Franklin County will be in place beginning today, Nov. 20. Impacts to Ohio State students, faculty and staff are detailed on the Safe and Healthy Buckeyes website. [Read more.](#)

The curfew will not apply to:

- those going to or from work
- those who have an emergency
- those who need medical care

All faculty and staff who can work from home are encouraged to coordinate with their supervisors and work remotely to enhance the safety of our campuses for those who must come in. The Office of Human Resources website has information available about [telework](#) options as well as [leave programs](#) for faculty and staff

during the COVID-19 state of emergency. If you have any signs of illness, please do not report to campus. Employees are also encouraged to take advantage of the university's [voluntary testing program](#) to help keep yourself and the members of your household safe.

The curfew is not intended to stop anyone from:

- getting groceries
- going to a pharmacy

Picking up carry-out or a drive-thru meal and ordering for delivery will be permitted but serving food and drink in person must cease at 10 p.m. [Read more.](#)

Classes Move to Online or Other Forms of Distance Learning

Effective at 6 pm. today, Nov. 20, in-person classes will be moved to online or other forms of remote instruction. Exceptions where in-person instruction is permitted include clinical programs conducted under approved safety protocols as well as laboratory, studio and performance classes. Students should check with their instructors about alternative plans for in-person courses, and professors who need assistance with different delivery modes should contact their academic department. Any clinical programs that change teaching modality should inform the Office of Academic Affairs.

Guidelines, Facilities, and Hours

- In accordance with state and local health guidelines, students, faculty and staff should only go out for:
 - Class
 - Dining
 - Work
 - COVID-19 testing
 - or other essential activities
- Campus facilities, including dining halls, recreational facilities and the Ohio Union, will close by 9:30 p.m. or earlier; please check websites for updated hours before visiting. [Read more.](#)
- The CFAES Columbus Library and Student Success Center has been temporarily closed to the public until further notice. Library staff remains available virtually Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm and by appointment.
 - Patrons affiliated with The Ohio State University can submit requests for physical materials held at Ohio State through the online catalog, for OhioLINK materials through the OhioLINK catalog, and for interlibrary loan items through [ILliad Article Express](#). You may choose campus delivery or contact-free pickup for physical materials. Contact-free pickup will be available at Thompson Library only.
 - More information about Library Services during COVID-19 is available [here](#).
- The CFAES Wooster Fisher/Research Library will be closed, but access to students and faculty during the break with the key fob. Faculty, staff, or grad students should contact Gwen Short for access during December & January (Gwen Short, short.67@osu.edu).
- CFAES Academic Programs Office is closed but is operating virtually. Please call (614-292-6891) or email (cfaesacademicprograms@osu.edu) with any questions or to make virtual or phone appointments. For updates, please visit <https://students.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/academic-processes>.

Events and Gatherings

In alignment with the November 15 Ohio Department of Health order, the City of Columbus and Franklin County Health Advisory, and guidance from the university all in-person gatherings, events and tabling activities, even those of 10 people or fewer, will be prohibited on both the CFAES Columbus and CFAES Wooster campuses. More information can be found on the [Events and gatherings page](#).

OSU Extension is being very cautious and paying close attention to case numbers, health advisories, local office needs, and commissioner requirements as well as carefully balancing their own health with that of our

stakeholders with their approach to their mission. There are many different approaches across Ohio to current health circumstances. The ability to continue in-person programming will be evaluated based on this information. Franklin county has canceled all in-person programming in alignment with the advisory for the county. For more information, reference [Associate Dean Jackie Wilkins message from today](#). Additional OSU Extension updates can be found at: go.osu.edu/extension-covid-19.

Research Activities

At this writing, no additional restrictions on research activities have been implemented. Research facilities on the CFAES Columbus and CFAES Wooster campuses are open and available for use.

- Researchers are strongly encouraged to work from home as much as possible, consider pausing existing research, and consider delaying the initiation of any new research activities, particularly if that research involves a significant investment to get started.
- Please only consider continuing work that, if not completed, would result in significant loss or delay of critical research or produce significant delays in the progress of a graduate student or post-doc.
- On-going research with live animals, cultures, incubations, or greenhouse activities should continue.
- Utilize all relevant health and safety precautions.

Research was reopened over the spring and summer without producing significant issues with the spread of COVID, and that success established a record that is allowing us to remain open under the current conditions. Please continue to be vigilant. As always, the situation may change on short notice and we will keep you updated on any developments that impact research.

Academic Calendar Changes for Spring Semester

The first two weeks of spring semester classes (Jan. 11-15 and Jan. 18-22) will be via virtual delivery. Student move-in for spring semester is currently scheduled for Jan. 18. [Read more](#).

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