

Subject: [cfaes-all] Dean's Update
Date: Friday, October 23, 2020 at 3:32:57 PM Eastern Daylight 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
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, ATT00001.txt

CFAES Community,

Thank you all for continuing to wear masks, maintain physical distancing and follow the guidance on the [Safe and Healthy Buckeyes](#) website. As COVID-19 cases rise across the state, it is important to continue these critical practices. Yesterday, Ohio State News reported that that our [“efforts appear to be working.”](#) Though, Dr. Amy Fairchild, Dean of the College of Public Health, did iterate that we should be cautious – “particularly as the weather turns colder, sending more people indoors, and as some grow complacent about the public health precautions necessary to contain the pandemic.” Please continue your efforts to follow this guidance so we can remain open, in-person, and Together As Buckeyes.

The upcoming election combined with dealing with the pandemic and schoolwork is creating stressors for many of us. As we get closer to the election, I want to remind all of us of our [Principles of Community](#). Our Principles of Community affirm our intentions to be respectful of each other and appreciate that we have different views. At the same time, we expect that the expression of different views is done “within a climate of civility, sensitivity, and mutual respect”. We value the differences in our college while affirming our common humanity. For faculty, you do not have to dedicate class time to discussing where students are, but it may be helpful to students to have a safe space to share. Here is a resource on [Respectful Dialogue](#) from the Michael V. Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning that you may find helpful. For election resources and support click [here](#).

Congratulations to Dr. Linda Saif for being recognized as one of the ten “Science Superheroes Leading the U.S. COVID-19 Response.” by MediFind. Learn more about her work in the following report: [“Beyond Fauci: Meet the Science Superheroes Leading the U.S. COVID-19 Response.”](#)

Be well and go Bucks!
Dean Kress

This update includes:

- Integrating Stone Laboratory and Ohio SeaGrant into CFAES
- Streamlining University Business
- Guidelines Regarding Political Activity by Employees of the University
- Search for Professor and Chair of the Department Horticulture and Crop Sciences (HCS)
- 2021 Open Enrollment Begins November 1
- Conversation with HR Leadership
- Changes to Tuition Assistance Benefit Starting 2021
- Virtual Meeting and Event Accessibility
- BuckeyeBox will be Retired in 2021
- Kolesen McCoy, National FFA President - Retiring Address
- The OSU Poultry Science Club is Taking Orders for Their 70th Annual Turkey Sale - Orders Due November 11th

- Enhance your Accessibility Expertise
- The Intersectionality of Blackness and Queerness

Integrating Stone Laboratory and Ohio SeaGrant into CFAES

In support of our continued commitment to water quality and management, the OSU Office of Research, and the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) are streamlining the reporting structure for Stone Laboratory and the Ohio Sea Grant Program (OHSG), shifting it within CFAES.

The current structure of the Stone Lab and OHSG divides oversight responsibilities between the Office of Research (OHSG and physical research center) and CFAES (academic programming, research, and facilities). The mission of the Stone Lab is to increase the public's understanding of water issues in Ohio, with an emphasis on Lake Erie, and to improve development and conservation of Lake Erie's resources, which aligns well with CFAES. For more than 40 years, Ohio Sea Grant has worked to protect the environment of Lake Erie and the Great Lakes. With a strong combination of research, education, and outreach efforts, as well as partnerships with academia, governmental agencies and the private sector, Ohio Sea Grant works with the Lake Erie community to solve the region's most important environmental and economic issues.

Fully integrating Stone Lab and OHSG under one Vice Presidential unit will enhance opportunities for impact and ensure long-term strategic directions, allow for further integration across research, teaching, and extension – both within CFAES, OSU at large, and with other university and college partners across Ohio as well as stakeholders.

The critical missions of both Stone Lab and OHSG will continue and efforts will increase. A task force has been created to more fully develop a proposal for specific integration within CFAES' organizational structure. Dr. Jeff Sharp, director of the CFAES School of Environment and Natural Resources, has been tapped to lead the task force. Periodic updates regarding this transition will be shared as they become available.

Streamlining University Business

One of the goals of Workday is to put the user experience first by streamlining business transactions, for consistent service delivery and increased efficiency.

Unifying administrative processes within a single system means one place for faculty and staff to accomplish many tasks. In place of using systems like eLeave, Employee Self-Service, Human Resources Action Request (HRA), and PeopleSoft, you will use Workday.

- Workday's cloud-based infrastructure allows individuals to access and manage real-time information, anytime and anywhere.
- The system will refresh with automatic updates twice a year, introducing new capabilities to the entire enterprise at once.

Learn more: <https://enterprise-project.osu.edu/about/workday-explained>

Guidelines Regarding Political Activity by Employees of the University

University staff and faculty members are encouraged to fully and freely exercise their constitutional right to vote, as well as express their personal opinions regarding political candidates, issues, local, state, and national programs, initiatives, and referendums. However, as employees of a public institution there are restrictions on exercising these rights in a manner that suggests university

endorsement of a cause or candidate. General guidelines on these restrictions can be found at: <https://legal.osu.edu/topics/political-activity-guidelines>.

Search for Professor and Chair of the Department Horticulture and Crop Sciences (HCS)

The search process for Professor and Chair of the Department of Horticulture and Crop Sciences (HCS) has begun. The search committee has been identified and the position description will be available soon. We invite all of our CFAES community to share the position description within your networks once the description is available. Information about this search is available at: <https://cfaes.osu.edu/people/leadership-searches>. For questions about administrative searches, please reach out to Senior Associate Dean Tracy Kitchel (.2).

2021 Open Enrollment Begins November 1

2021 Open Enrollment begins Sunday, November 1, 2020, and ends Sunday, November 15, 2020. All elections made during Open Enrollment are effective January 1, 2021. <https://hr.osu.edu/oe/>

To assist employees during a time of economic uncertainty, the decision was made by the university for the 2021 plan year that rates for Ohio State's benefit plans will be kept at the same level as 2020. This does not include rates for COBRA coverage. However, there are some changes for 2021. To review visit: <https://hr.osu.edu/oe/whats-changing/>.

Questions? Contact [HR Connection](#) via hrconnection@osu.edu or (614) 247-myHR (6947).

Conversation with HR Leadership

On October 29 at 11:00 a.m. University staff are invited to watch the University Staff Advisory Committee lead some of Ohio State's HR leaders in a panel discussion. General conversational themes will be focused around the HR Strategic Plan, HR Transformation (including Career Roadmap), staff engagement and general university updates.

The virtual event will provide an opportunity for staff to engage on various topics with Susan Basso, senior vice president of talent, culture and human resources, Alison Mincey, senior associate vice president human resources, Wexner Medical Center, Kim Shumate, associate vice president strategic initiatives, and Lin Hillis, associate vice president talent, diversity, and leadership.

[Advanced registration](#) is required for this webinar and [questions can be submitted](#) in advance. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the webinar. Live transcription services will be provided. If you are unable to watch live, you will be able to access the recording of the event on the USAC website.

Changes to Tuition Assistance Benefit Starting 2021

Ohio State is updating its tuition assistance benefits to ensure they remain sustainable and available to all eligible employees. Starting in spring semester 2021, the maximum credit hour limit for employee tuition assistance decreases from 10 to 6 hours per term. Changes planned for summer 2021 include a benefit enrollment requirement for employee tuition assistance and dependent eligibility verification for dependent tuition benefits. Please see the HR website for full details on these and other planned changes to tuition assistance benefits starting in 2021. [Read more »](#)

Virtual Meeting and Event Accessibility

As we continue to utilize technology to connect virtually with our audiences, partners, and

stakeholders, it is important to ensure these online offerings are inclusive and accessible to everyone. Ohio State's [Digital Accessibility Policy](#) requires live captioning for most online events and webinars. The ADA Coordinator's Office has created a [Live Captioning FAQ](#) that answers many questions about what is required and how to do it. In general, this applies to any online event or webinar that is not a routine business meeting or part of a course offering (large unit-wide meetings would not qualify as routine and do require captioning). Where live captioning for an event cannot be provided, an accommodation-based exception must be approved by the university. To qualify for an exception, the event will have to require registration and include language in all communications inviting users to request captioning if they need accommodation.

For assistance in setting up captioning for your event or in placing an exception with the university contact the Digital Accessibility Coordinator for CFAES, Eric Owens (owens.778@osu.edu).

BuckeyeBox will be Retired in 2021

When your department or business unit begins to migrate, OCIO will move your files to One Drive and Teams. We will work with departmental leaders to determine the best time for your department to migrate. In advance of your migration, your department will send communications with dates and resources specific to your migration.

- Clean up your files: Use this [Job Aid\(link is external\)](#) to help walk you through this process.
- Participate in [trainings](#) to learn how to use One Drive and Teams. OCIO will host more advanced trainings as the project progresses.
- Review the [Retention Schedules\(link is external\)](#) for your documents.
- If you have API's or unique use cases, please share them with the project team at BoxMigrationProject@osu.edu. If you are a Managed IT Services (MITS) partner, you may also contact your relationship manager with concerns.

Explore more details at: <https://it.osu.edu/cloud-storage-and-collaboration-transition>

Kolesen McCoy, National FFA President - Retiring Address

On November 2nd, 2019 AEDE student, Kolesen McCoy, was elected to serve as the 93rd National FFA President. After a year of dedicated service to the organization and its 760,000 members, McCoy will be presenting his Retiring Address live during the 4th General Session on **Oct 28, 2020 - 7-8:30 PM**. Live broadcast viewing of General Sessions is available through RFD-TV, The Cowboy Channel, RFD-TV's Streaming Service RFD-TV Now, The Cowboy Channel Plus apps, convention.ffa.org and YouTube, at no charge and does not require registration. [Learn more.](#)

The OSU Poultry Science Club is Taking Orders for Their 70th Annual Turkey Sale - Orders Due November 11th

The turkeys are supplied by Bowman & Landes Turkeys, Inc. and are free-range, raised without antibiotics, and fed a vegetable-based diet. Bowman & Landes is a family-owned and operated company located around Dayton, OH. For more information about Bowman & Landes and their products or company values, please follow this link to their website: <https://bowmanlandes.com/>.

You do not have to be affiliated with OSU to order a turkey from the Poultry Science Club! Please feel free to share [this flyer](#) and information with family and friends. Upon ordering, turkeys can be picked up in the Animal Science Building outside of Room 117. Please use the following address which will bring you to the large parking lot located behind the Animal Sciences building, where there is a loading dock zone with short-term (free) parking: 2172 John H. Herrick Drive, Columbus, OH 43210.

Pickup times are as follows:

- Monday, November 23st, from 1:00 pm- 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 24nd, from 11:00 am-7:00 pm

Payment can be made in the form of cash, Venmo, or check and must be paid in full at the time of pickup. Checks can be made payable to Poultry Science Club of OSU. Please note that products are ordered by a weight range, so the price will vary with each individual product. Orders can be made online by following this [link](#), or they can be sent in by mail or email. Please refer to [this order form](#) for placing your order by mail or email.

Any questions can be addressed to osupoultryscience@gmail.com. If you do not receive a confirmation email from the club within 1-3 business days of your order, please email us at osupoultryscience@gmail.com to make sure your order has been received. Thank you for supporting the Poultry Science Club at OSU!

Enhance your Accessibility Expertise

Learn to develop accessible digital products through Digital Accessibility Skills Training now available in BuckeyeLearn. Courses include accessibility training for documents, PDFs, presentations, websites and more. Enhance your accessibility expertise and take a course today. Additionally, if you have been assigned the Digital Accessibility Policy training in BuckeyeLearn, please complete it by Dec. 31. [Read more »](#)

The Intersectionality of Blackness and Queerness

Black people who are also members of the LGBTQ+ community (broadly referred to here as “Queer”) have unique experiences because they belong to multiple marginalized social identity groups. Black Queer people face unique challenges because their identities intersect in complex ways. This panel discussion will feature a diverse group of Black Queer community leaders and will be moderated by local educator and activist, Izetta Nicole. This event is free and open to all Ohio State students, staff, and faculty. [Read more »](#) [Contact »](#)

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