CFAES Community,

President Johnson reported this week that we have conducted more than 110,000 tests, and the seven-day average positivity rate for all students has dropped to 0.8% and for students living off campus, it has dropped to 1.3%. She also reported the rate has steadily decreased for nearly a month both on campus and off campus. While this is extremely positive, we have been hearing reports where masks are not being worn and physical distancing is not being practiced. I know it is the middle of the semester and we are doing relatively well in terms of spread, but we want to continue this positive trajectory so we can continue an in-person presence.

As a reminder, the university requires face masks to be worn on all of Ohio State’s campuses. Face masks must be worn in indoor settings, including, but not limited to classrooms, residence halls, conference rooms, shared office spaces, hallways, buses, and common areas such as lobbies, study spaces and laundry facilities. The number of individuals in any indoor space should be limited to facilitate physical distancing. Masks must also be worn in outdoor settings, even when individuals can maintain appropriate physical distancing. More information can be found on the Safe and Healthy Buckeyes Site here: https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu/personal-protection-hygiene.

If you continue to see behaviors of masks not being worn and physical distancing not being practiced, just remind that person. There is so much to track right now, we all need a reminder from time to time. If you see repeated issues, please bring those to my attention. The university has also compiled guidance on how to respectfully encourage compliance with face mask guidelines on campus.

Be well.
Dean Cathann Kress

This update includes:

- Recruitment/Enrollment Task Force
- CFAES Secures Three New Gifts
- Academic Unit Reviews
- DEI Trainings
- Changes to University Business
- You’re invited to celebrate the Legacy of Dr. Rattan Lal
- Faculty Portrait Session Being Offered on October 22
- Guidance Provided for Autumn 2020 SEIs
- Upcoming University Events
- Mental Health Resources for Students
- Wellness Resources for Faculty and Staff

Recruitment/Enrollment Task Force

Enrollment and recruitment strategies are vitally important for our future and the future of our
industries. However, they are also complicated and easy to overlook in our regular strategic planning. The Recruitment/Enrollment Task Force co-chaired by Mary Rodriguez (ACEL) and Maurice Eastridge (Animal Sciences) will create the foundation for increasing our knowledge and understanding of our enrollment trends and data, engage faculty in considering our goals for engaging students, and review our enrollment plan for implementation across the college.

For us to be successful with our recruitment and enrollment, we must involve leaders from across our college, we need a plan to be tied to our mission and it must be clearly understood by our college community. The task force is also being asked to consider the successful and seamless student lifecycle that extends the full range, from awareness (such as in 4-H) to recruiting to retention to alumni engagement. Enrollment needs to focus not only on admitting students, but also on ensuring successful student progression and completion, successful launching of their career, and engaging alumni. CFAES must invest the resources required to ensure student development and success, taking a holistic view around enrolling and supporting students through graduation and as a lifelong CFAES Buckeye.

CFAES Secures Three New Gifts
CFAES has recently secured three gifts that encompass each of our Time & Change: The Ohio State Campaign priorities: Student Success and Workforce Development, Translating our Research, and Enhancing our Infrastructure at Waterman. Development Officer Jen Heller, with the tremendous partnership and power of networking from Dr. Chieri Kubota, received an in-kind gift from GE Current who will be donating the horticultural and general-purpose lighting for the production greenhouse within our Controlled Environment Food Production Research Complex. Through the dedicated work of Trish Raridan-Preston, Tom (CFAES '70) and Susie (CFAES '83) Turner have created the Dr. Thomas B. Turner Livestock Judging Coach Endowed Fund to support the salary of the Livestock Judging Team Coach. And last but not least, with an assist from Katie LeMasters, Pablo Villa worked with Roger and Janice McFrederick to create the Michael F. McFrederick Memorial Scholarship Fund an endowed scholarship in memory of their son Michael, who graduated in 1986 with an Associate in Applied Science in Landscape Horticulture.

Academic Unit Reviews
We just recently finished up two Academic Unit Reviews. The Animal Sciences External Review team held virtual visits from 9/28/20 - 9/30/20 and the Plant Pathology External Review team held virtual visits from 10/5/20 - 10/7/20. Academic unit reviews can be among the most meaningful experiences departments, schools and colleges have at The Ohio State University. These periodic studies of a unit’s progress and potential are profoundly important to developing a shared future vision as colleagues come together to chart their unit’s next strategic milestones. Through academic unit reviews, those colleagues also develop a richer understanding of how their unit’s activities contribute to Ohio State’s core goals of teaching and learning, research and innovation, outreach and engagement, and resource stewardship. And with that understanding, they can more effectively help their unit and the university forward. Reviews are aligned with college and department strategic planning and chair appointments. Academic unit reviews are scheduled every eight years. The results of the external reviews thus inform our units’ strategic documents.
DEI Trainings
The CFAES Office of Diversity, Equity and inclusion has several upcoming workshops. Visit: https://equityandinclusion.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/events-and-workshops/cfaes-diversity-equity-and-inclusion-workshops to learn more. Dr. Leo Taylor is also available to deliver programming to individual units as well as giving guest lectures on diversity, equity, and inclusion topics in courses for CFAES faculty. If you are a member of the CFAES community and would like to schedule a specific program for your unit, please contact Dr. Taylor at taylor.3408@osu.edu. Please include a timeline for delivery, requested topic(s), and approximate number of participants.

Changes to University Business
Workday will streamline university business starting in January 2021. Workday HR and Payroll go live on January 3 and Workday Finance and Supply Chain will follow on January 7. It will impact all of us as it is a self-service model and tasks will not be able to be delegated, unless you hold a college level administrative appointment (chairs/leadership). Tasks using Workday that will need to be completed by faculty include:

- purchasing goods and services
- requesting travel
- request positions (managers)
- request hires and separations (managers)
- viewing pay
- updating personal information
- selecting benefits
- tracking time and absence

These transactions will not look like how they did in the past. There will be several advantages including the ability to track progress of requests, which will save time. Other Workday wins include allowing us to be forward thinking, streamlining, and simplifying processes including a single central place to go for university operations. It will foster an environment of collaboration and transparency and give you greater visibility with access to current information – anytime, anywhere – learn more.

All training that core users are expected to take will be listed on an individual's BuckeyeLearn transcript. Training is assigned on a rolling basis, so check your ‘My Transcript’ often. Remember, OSU Compass can be a quick shortcut to view assigned BuckeyeLearn trainings. If you go to compass.osu.edu and sign in, you can easily see if you have a Workday learning modules in the learning box to the bottom left of your screen. These trainings are assigned based on your roles in PeopleSoft.

There will be more information about how this will look and work. More to come.

You’re invited to celebrate the Legacy of Dr. Rattan Lal
Join us to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Rattan Lal, from his humble beginnings to becoming a world-renowned scientist and 2020 World Food Prize Laureate for helping the earth’s estimated 500 million small farmers be faithful stewards of their land. This event will include a guided discussion and reflection with Dr. Lal and future plans that will contribute to his legacy. Learn more. The program will be hosted in conjunction with the virtual 2020 Borlaug Dialog and premiere on YouTube. Register here.

Faculty Portrait Session Being Offered on October 22
There will be a faculty portrait session on Thursday, October 22 in Kottman Hall 200. Faculty wishing to have their portrait taken for professional or departmental purposes may schedule an appointment on this [doodle poll](#) between the hours of 10:00 AM and 2:30 PM. Up to two people may sign up for a given 15 minute time slot. The use of scheduled appointments should limit wait time, however, should a short wait be required, we will have chairs set up maintaining appropriate physical distance in the hallway outside of room 200. Please contact John [Rice.42@osu.edu](mailto:Rice.42@osu.edu) with questions.

**Guidance Provided for Autumn 2020 SEIs**
Student Evaluations of Instruction (SEIs) will be conducted in their usual manner for autumn 2020 courses, with a statement acknowledging the effect of COVID-19 on teaching and learning. Students are encouraged to focus holistically on instruction. The Office of Academic Affairs also provides a statement that faculty, staff and graduate students may use in their dossiers. [Read more »](#)

**Flu shots strongly recommended for faculty, staff and students**
Ohio State University leaders are strongly encouraging faculty, staff and students on all campuses to get a [flu shot](#) this year. This recommendation applies to all members of the community, whether they are living, learning and working on a campus or at home. [Read more »](#)

**Upcoming University Events**
The following virtual events are planned this week:
- At 12:30 p.m. **next Monday (Oct. 12)**, [Academic Integrity in Online Courses](#) will focus on many aspects of academic integrity and share ideas about how instructors can prevent cheating.
- Also next **Monday (Oct. 12)**, the two-week [Introduction to Teaching Online](#) course will start. In this 10-hour course, instructors will learn essential elements of online teaching with a focus on using evidence-based practices, and leave with a set of concrete next steps and resources to support future teaching.

Learn about other upcoming events for faculty and other instructors through the [Drake Institute](#) and the [Keep Teaching](#) website.

**Mental Health Resources for Students**
- [CFAES has a mental health counselor embedded in our college](#) to work primarily with our students: David L. Wirt, M.Ed., LPCC-S. If you are a student who would like to meet with David, or one of his colleagues, please go to [https://ccs.osu.edu](https://ccs.osu.edu) and click on “schedule a phone screening” or call 614-292-5766. Students should mention they are a CFAES student if they call to be routed to David.
- For immediate crisis assistance 24/7, please call 614-292-5766. If calling after hours, press 2 to be connected to a counselor. If a threat exists to your safety or others, please call 9-1-1
- Daily consultations are also available through our "Let’s Talk" program Monday through Friday: [https://ccs.osu.edu/about-us-and-our-services/lets-talk/](https://ccs.osu.edu/about-us-and-our-services/lets-talk/)
- The Ohio State: Wellness app is designed for students but offers tips and guidance useful for all members of our community. It is available for [Android](#) and [iOS](#) devices.
- [Safe and Healthy Buckeyes: Mental Health and Wellness](#)
- Students can use the [Counseling and Consultation Service](#) (CCS) and the [Buckeye Peer Access Line](#) (PAL), which operates Monday through Friday from 8 p.m. to midnight.

**Wellness Resources for Faculty and Staff**
- [Safe and Healthy Buckeyes: Mental Health and Wellness](#)
- Faculty and staff can use the [Human Resources Keep Well website](#), the [Chief Wellness Officer](#)
Health and Wellness page and Your Plan For Health.

- CCS also provides guidance for ways for faculty and staff to support students.
- The Ohio State: Wellness app is designed for students but offers tips and guidance useful for all members of our community. It is available for Android and iOS devices.

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
Twitter: @cathannkress

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