

**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](#)  
**Subject:** [cfaes-all] Dean's Update  
**Date:** Friday, September 18, 2020 5:12:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
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[ATT00001.txt](#)

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CFAES Community,

Thanks for another week of hard work and juggling many demands. I greatly appreciate how the work keeps getting done and done well. Next week, we are looking forward to our virtual Farm Science Review, and I'm guessing there were many happy Buckeyes this week as it was announced that Buckeye football would be returning. (Go, Bucks!) We welcomed a couple of special guests again this week — while I was at CFAES-Wooster on Tuesday, I had a virtual interview with Governor DeWine for Farm Science Review and back at CFAES-Columbus on Wednesday, President Johnson came by for another short visit.

Unfortunately, in this update I'm also sharing news that our new Assistant Dean and Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Dr. Patrice Dickerson has resigned due to personal reasons. My thoughts are with Patrice, and I thank her for her service to our college over the summer.

By now you've likely seen the message from the Provost yesterday announcing the University Senate vote to provide undergraduate students with additional flexibility to request Pass/No Pass grading. Our college will need to determine options for courses that are required as part of a major, minor, or program.

Finally, a friendly reminder that in order to remain "Together as Buckeyes" and continue in-person learning, educating, and researching, it is imperative that masks are worn correctly and consistently. Please keep in mind:

1. Masks need to be worn at all times in indoor settings, including, but not limited to classrooms, residence halls, conference rooms, shared office spaces, hallways, buses, shared vehicles and common areas such as lobbies, study spaces and laundry facilities on all Ohio State campuses (including our statewide campus). Masks must also be worn in outdoor settings, even when individuals can maintain appropriate physical distancing.
2. Masks need to be worn correctly - covering both the nose and mouth.
3. Masks need to be worn while speaking; students also need to keep theirs on while speaking.
4. There should be no eating or drinking during classes and removing masks.

More information on masks guidance and exceptions can be found on the Safe and Healthy Buckeyes website at: <https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu/personal-protection-hygiene>.

Have a good weekend. Be well.

Dean Cathann Kress

This update includes:

- DEI Update
- Pass/No Pass Grading Options

- CABS Adds Routes, Expands Service
- “Celebrating Buckeyes” Week
- CFAES IT Transformation Project Update
- BuckeyeBox Retirement
- BuckeyeBox Migration and Teams + OneDrive Trainings
- BuckeyePass Changes Coming in October
- IT Support Reminder
- Fall Calendar Reminders
- Spring Calendar Updates

### **DEI Update**

Dr. Patrice Dickerson has resigned from her position as Assistant Dean and Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) effective today. A personal matter arose requiring her to step away from work and this position. We recognize the unfortunate timing in light of our building momentum in DEI, but we do support her decision and wish her well. In the interim please send DEI inquiries to Dr. Tracy Kitchel ([kitchel.2@osu.edu](mailto:kitchel.2@osu.edu)), Senior Associate Dean and Director of Faculty and Staff Affairs. Next steps are being considered and more information will be forthcoming.

### **Pass/No Pass Grading Options**

Yesterday, University Senate voted to provide undergraduate students with additional flexibility to request Pass/No Pass grading for General Education and elective courses this semester. Ohio State typically limits Pass/No Pass grading to elective courses, but these resolutions extend this grading choice to General Education courses and also provide a longer window in the semester for students to work with their advisors to request Pass/No Pass. This Senate action acknowledged the uncertainty that quarantine, and isolation requirements might have on affected students' academic progress, with a particular focus on student mental health and well-being. **For undergraduate courses that are required as part of a major, minor or program, the Senate voted to permit colleges and schools to consider Pass/No Pass options.**

The Office of Academic Affairs will work with academic leaders in the coming days to provide a clear process and timeline by which colleges and schools communicate any further decisions on these options. More information will be posted at [oaa.osu.edu/pass-no-pass-fall-2020](http://oaa.osu.edu/pass-no-pass-fall-2020).

### **CABS Adds Routes, Expands Service**

CABS is expanding service to offer additional options for students, faculty and staff. While capacity remains limited to promote physical distancing, the Campus Loop South will resume modified service on Sept. 21. In addition, the West Campus route will expand its daytime hours. These additions provide more convenient transportation options. Due to low ridership, CABS is reducing early morning hours for the Buckeye Lot Loop. All passengers should wear masks and are asked to enter from the front and exit from the rear door.

Beginning Sept. 21, the Campus Loop South will resume modified service and the West Campus route will expand hours to run during the day. The Buckeye Loop early morning hours will be reduced due to low ridership.

Service offerings are fluid and will continue to be updated to accommodate decisions regarding overall health, wellness and services on campus. Riders can track CABS buses in real-time via the [Ohio State app \(link is external\)](#). Individuals who are mobility impaired can continue to utilize Ohio State [Paratransit Services](#). Learn more at: <https://ttm.osu.edu/cabs>

### **“Celebrating Buckeyes” Week**

From Monday, September 28 - Friday, October 2 in lieu of traditional Homecoming festivities the university is planning a “Celebrating Buckeyes” week. This is an opportunity to build pride and connectedness during this unusual fall through stories of Buckeyes doing incredible things to change the world. The story will unfold through content that showcases extraordinary students, alumni, staff, faculty, volunteers, and donors, as well as efforts that encourage Buckeyes to engage in their own peer-to-peer recognition.

With this, CFAES would like to expand on this university effort and tell our own stories. We are seeking your support and guidance to identify the amazing stories of our CFAES community so that they may be shared and celebrated widely on social media during Celebrating Buckeyes week and beyond.

Let’s showcase and celebrate these stories together during #CelebratingBuckeyes week!

Do you know a Buckeye doing extraordinary things? Send your stories to [CFAES-SAC@osu.edu](mailto:CFAES-SAC@osu.edu), to Amy Jo Baughman.261, or submit them [here](#) by 9am Monday, September 21.

### **CFAES IT Transformation Project Update**

The [CFAES IT Transformation project](#) continued to move forward over the summer following a pause due to COVID-19. Over the past few years, many areas in CFAES had already moved to OCIO Managed IT Services, and our partnership helped us collaboratively develop strategies over these challenging months that enabled employees to continue working remotely while keeping their health and safety a primary focus.

Since kicking off our partnership, CFAES has reduced IT costs by over \$250,000 while retiring nearly 270 aging computers that presented operational and security risk across our college-wide environment. Our most critical IT infrastructure resources and servers have also moved to the [State of Ohio Computing Center](#) – providing stability, reliability, and enhanced security.

### **BuckeyeBox Retirement**

<https://it.osu.edu/news/2020/09/08/bye-bye-buckeyebox>  
<https://it.osu.edu/cloud-storage-and-collaboration-transition>

In June of 2021, BuckeyeBox will be retired. Over the course of the school year, the university will move to Office 365 (OneDrive, Teams) for storage and collaboration. More information will be coming that details the transition over the fall and winter.

Ohio State is working with a company to migrate Box data via its content migration tool. Most of us collaborate on both individual and department folders. We will likely move files through a combination of automated and self-initiated activities, and the [IT Service Desk](#) will continue to be

there for assistance.

OCIO will be offering expanded training opportunities for both OneDrive and Teams in the coming months. In the meantime, the administrative resource center has posted self-help information regarding how to [transition from BuckeyeBox to OneDrive](#).

### **BuckeyeBox Migration and Teams + OneDrive Trainings**

The retirement of BuckeyeBox (and “U” Drive for MITS clients) in spring/summer of 2021 is going to require significant effort, and the university is planning to provide significant support.

Training resources are available in the [Administrative Resource Center: Migration to OneDrive for Business from BuckeyeBox \(link is external\)](#).

OCIO are planning on hosting training sessions as follows:

- **Using Microsoft Teams** ([Register Now](#))  
Tuesday, Sept. 22, 1 p.m.  
Wednesday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m.
- **Using Microsoft OneDrive for Business** ([Register Now](#))  
Tuesday, Oct. 6, 10 a.m.  
Wednesday, Oct. 7, 1:30 p.m.
- **Cloud Storage Transition and File Migration** (Coming Soon)  
Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2 p.m.  
Wednesday, Oct. 21, 10:30 a.m.

If you have questions or can't find the information you are looking for, please contact the [IT Service Desk](#).

### **BuckeyePass Changes Coming in October**

<https://it.osu.edu/news/2020/09/04/buckeyepass-changes-are-coming-october>

The “call me” option for authenticating through BuckeyePass will be retired – this affects a handful of people here in CFAES who have used to solely to authenticate instead of using a smartphone App or other method. In light of this change, [more BuckeyePass authentication options](#) are now available.

On [Thursday, Oct. 29](#), BuckeyePass will protect Outlook and all Office 365 applications. Aside from accessing the web-based versions of applications, users will only be prompted for BuckeyePass authentication on approximately the same frequency as changing your Ohio State password.

### **IT Support Reminder**

As a reminder, the IT Service Desk offices will not be open for drop-in appointments this fall. Technicians will remain staffed strategically around campus for timely response when in-person support is required. The IT Service Desk will continue to provide IT support remotely through the following methods 24/7:

- For immediate assistance, call 614-514-IT4U(4848).
- For non-urgent requests, contact online:

- o Email: [servicedesk@osu.edu](mailto:servicedesk@osu.edu)
- o Self Service: [go.osu.edu/it](https://go.osu.edu/it)

IT Service Desk technicians are able to resolve most issues via phone, email, or online support. If a technician determines you need in-person support, they will set up an appointment with you in alignment with the university's [safe and healthy guidelines](#). Only IT staff will be allowed in IT Service Desk locations. When in-person support is necessary, it will be performed via curbside pickup, at the customer's desk or in a central meeting area following physical distancing recommendations.

For more information on remote access to computers at the University (if access to a machine on campus with special software for is needed) or information on recording studios and recording equipment visit our [Return to Offices and Campuses](#) webpage.

To read more about the [CFAES IT Transformation](#) project, visit <https://it.osu.edu/cfaes>.

### **Fall Calendar Reminders**

As a reminder, because of adjustments to our [academic calendar](#) there will be no autumn break this semester, so classes will be uninterrupted until Veterans Day (Nov. 11). The final day of in person instruction will be Nov. 25, and classes will resume after the Thanksgiving break on Nov. 30 in distance modes. Exams will take place Dec. 7-11 (also in distance modes).

### **Spring Calendar Updates**

Changes to the spring calendar have been made to reflect the university's focus on health and wellness. The first week of classes, scheduled for Jan. 11-15, will be online, and spring break will be replaced by two instructional breaks on Feb. 9 and March 31. Classes will end April 21, and final exams will take place April 23-29. Commencement will take place May 9 in a format to be determined based on safety guidelines in place in the spring. By moving these dates forward, we will allow more time to plan for summer term classes, which will begin May 12.

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

Vice President for Agricultural Administration & Dean

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