

Subject: [cfaes-all] Dean's Update
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 4:50:41 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Cfaes-all on behalf of CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean via Cfaes-all
To: CFAES HR via Cfaes-all
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, ATT00001.txt

Dear CFAES Community,

Yesterday, the decision reached by the Breonna Taylor grand jury was released and has been met with strong emotions and actions. President Kristina M. Johnson sent her statement via email and shared a video Wednesday night.

Like many of you, I have watched the news cycle unfolding. I've read some of the social media posts. I read the release from Kentucky Attorney General, Daniel Cameron. In doing so, my thoughts turned to all of you. I know many of you are hurting and are angry.

In my role, I think of myself as one of the stewards of our community and its mission. I want to remind all of us of our [Principles of Community](#). I want to encourage you to read and talk about what you know and feel with others. I want you to reflect on not only the world in which we want to live, but in our corner of it—within CFAES—what kind of a community do we want to be together? If you are struggling, I encourage you to utilize some of the resources I'm sharing below which might be helpful. I encourage each of us in CFAES to reach out to each other, listen to one another, and take care of one another.

Holding space with all of you. Be well.
Dean Cathann Kress

Wellness Resources

- [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](#).
- 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.
- 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.

Addressing Racism Inequity: Respectful Dialogue Toolkit

To achieve a fairer, more equitable and just society, conversations about race, inequity, and difference are critical. To support these discussions, the [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#), the [Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning](#) and [University Libraries](#) have come together to develop resources which include:

- A [respectful dialogue toolkit](#) to help those committed to leading and engaging in important conversations around race and racism, equity, and inclusion. This toolkit defines respectful dialogue, provides [strategies](#) for nourishing these meaningful conversations, and keeps the community updated with webinars and events to help you further develop your skills to have what we hope are deeply meaningful conversations.
- An [extensive reading list](#) that includes dozens of books, articles, and essays past and present that

offer different perspectives on racism. Additionally, they have collaborated to create three reading guides for the popular titles — [White Fragility](#), [Just Mercy](#) and [How to be Anti-Racist](#), with an eye toward facilitating conversations and reading groups with friends, family members, and colleagues about race and racism.

Additional Updates Include:

- Chadwick Arboretum Leadership Transitions
- Cold and Flu Season
- Compass
- Writing Accountability Groups (WAGs) Signup
- Restoration of in-person gatherings for student organizations

Chadwick Arboretum Leadership Transitions

After 27 years of dedicated leadership, Mary Maloney will be retiring from her role as Director of the CFAES Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens. Mary's last day at Chadwick will be September 30th. A drive-by farewell for Mary is planned for Tuesday, September 29th at 3:00 p.m. in the turnaround drive in front of Howlett Hall, 2001 Fyffe Court, 43210. Donations can also be made in honor of Mary to the Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens fund here: <https://go.osu.edu/chadwickannualfund>.

Dewey Mann, Director of Waterman Agricultural and Natural Resources Laboratory will be appointed as Interim Director of Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens. Pam Bennett, Associate Professor who serves as Extension Educator in Clark County and as state Master Gardener Volunteer Program Director, will serve alongside Dewey as Interim Chadwick Arboretum Program Director.

Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens and its extensive, urban, green reserve of over 60 acres is an important asset of CFAES and the University. It is used throughout our teaching, research and Extension mission areas. Therefore, we will be moving the Chadwick Arboretum into the larger CFAES Operations portfolio, under the direction of Associate Dean Graham Cochran, to better align and support this unit which serves many departments. Later this fall we will be appointing a transition team (internal to CFAES) who will work with our college leadership on strategic direction for Chadwick and what is sought in a new director. We will also engage University partners, the existing Chadwick Arboretum advisory committee, and volunteer base for input.

Cold and Flu Season

As we head into cold and flu season, more questions will arise regarding how to handle it in relation to COVID-19 and our on-campus presence. Here are a few points to consider as we move forward:

- If you are showing symptoms of a cold or flu in ways that may overlap with COVID-19 symptoms, you should not report to campus. In playing this out, when a health check is completed, you should receive a "red condition" telling you and your supervisor that you should not report to campus as one of the questions asks about new symptoms. We should look at this similarly to how we've looked at our cleaning protocols in that, out of an abundance of caution, the faculty/staff member/student will not be reporting to campus.
- As per the first point, as faculty/staff members/students consider getting tested, remind them that as cold and flu season begins to ramp up, more requests for testing will surface and testing may get overwhelmed. If you hear consistent issues around testing, please let us know.
- We encourage everyone to be supportive as they make these decisions to not report to campus.

We should not “power through” a cold or other illness instead we should stand to do better to leave our germs at home.

Compass

Earlier this year the University released Compass (<http://compass.osu.edu>). Compass helps faculty and staff navigate administrative systems, resources, and manage business at Ohio State. Developed in partnership by the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) and the Enterprise Project, Compass also provides a personalized experience by summarizing employee information, including health reporting, recent paycheck amounts, E-leave (submit requests and view balances), nearby parking availability, and assigned BuckeyeLearn trainings. **Faculty and staff are encouraged to continue exploring the features of Compass as it will provide easy access to [WORKDAY](#) when it launches this January 2021.**

Writing Accountability Groups (WAGs) Signup

Need some help staying on top of your writing projects this fall? Consider joining a Writing Accountability Group (WAG). These groups can help you improve time management skills, practice goal setting, and get into a regular writing routine. [Learn more and register here by Friday, September 25.](#)

Restoration of in-person gatherings for student organizations

As of Sept. 22, the university is allowing student organizations to resume holding gatherings of 10 or fewer people. Student organizations are still required to follow all the safe and healthy guidelines, and Student Conduct will fully investigate and take appropriate action if violations occur on or off campus. The university will continue to evaluate the prevalence of the virus on and off campus to make decisions about in-person gatherings moving forward or take any other pre-emptive actions. [Read more.](#)

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