

May 10, 2021

RE: Back to Campus

Dear Chairs, Directors and Senior Administrators:

Everyone has now seen the recent communications from President Jarrell and the updated guidelines regarding the return to campus plans. Dr. Reece fully supports these plans and the guidelines outlined by the campus. Thank you for submitting the outlines for your specific units for the summer and fall. In general, all the received submitted plans align with both the campus and Dr. Reece's expectations. All educational programs in the Medical School will be returning to an on-campus presence in the fall as space allows. As you move forward with your planning, please keep the following points in mind:

- We are a University and School community for which an on-campus presence does matter. Due to the need for continued onsite operations such as wet lab research and patient care, many of our faculty and staff have been working on campus daily throughout the pandemic.
- It is the intent of all educational programs that run through the Medical School to have students return to campus this fall.
- For the summer, the stated expectation from President Jarrell is that "almost everyone needs to be here some of the time" and for the fall, "almost everybody will be back most of the time". A guideline of 50% density/occupancy is the target for the summer months and 80% is the target for the fall. Certain office set-ups allow for greater daily density due to the number of private offices.
- Until the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) revised telework policy has been approved and goes into effect, the campus will continue under the current "pandemic telework policy".
- As a reminder, if a person's computer was turned off in March, 2020 and it hasn't been on since, when you return to the office and turn the computer on, updates will begin installing. This process can take several hours with multiple reboots. Be prepared for these updates to take place. Please refer to the [SOM Information Services web site](#) for additional information about security and application updates. If you receive IT support from another IT group, contact that group for their return to campus IT guidelines. If you were regularly using VPN from home, then updates would have occurred.
- Everyone is aware of the vaccination requirement for the fall. All faculty, students, and staff should arrange to have their first vaccine dose before Thursday, July 1, 2021, so that the 2nd dose can be given in time for maximum immunity effectiveness for the academic year.
- UMB faculty, staff, and students who come to campus **currently** must register and complete the UMB Symptom Assessment for Employees (and Students) on Campus (SAFE on Campus) daily health



screenings. We do not yet know if this requirement will continue in June. UMB will provide an update as we get closer.

- We will be receiving more information and guidance regarding the process for exemptions to the vaccine mandate as well as guidance for supervisors with employees who are non-compliant. University System of Maryland (USM) has been clear that refusal to be vaccinated (outside of an approved exemption) is not a valid reason to be permitted full time telework.
- Leadership understands that conditions relative to COVID will evolve and is committed to flexibility wherever feasible.
- If you require sanitation supplies for your meeting space you can order them thru this link: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/5c925e8b9cc143eda1c1e97b72db5ce2> or call 443-540-7281 to contact OEM Logistics staff with questions.
- If you require additional signage in your area please download, print, and post UMB conforming signs available at the link provided on page 12 of the UMB Return to Campus Guide.

This document ([Return To Campus Guide May 2021 - UMB Recovery | Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) \(umaryland.edu\)](#)) contains important information on most aspects of the process for returning and remaining safe. If you have specific questions after reviewing the Return To Campus Guide, please contact the Recovery Task Force staff at this link <https://www.umaryland.edu/coronavirus/questions/>

If you have questions about specific capacity of meeting rooms please email Robert Cook at Rcook@som.umaryland.edu and he will assist.

Thank you.



Louisa A. Peartree, MBA
*Senior Associate Dean, Finance & Resource Management
Chief Financial Officer & Chief Operating Officer
Office of Finance and Resource Management
University of Maryland, School of Medicine*