



September 28, 2020

Dear Members of the University Community,

Two weeks ago, I announced a pause of in-person instruction. I want to commend the entire University community for so quickly adapting to fully remote instruction.

Over the past two weeks, we implemented a number of important and helpful steps and restrictions. We also targeted testing to populations that we expected would have higher concentrations of the virus. Last week, that involved testing all students living off campus and every student currently in quarantine.

As you will see in the update later this afternoon, we will report a higher percentage of positive cases for our testing this week. This was an expected outcome of our targeted testing strategy. You will also note that the number of students in quarantine and isolation is greatly reduced due, in part to the restrictions put in place over the past two weeks.

After evaluating the overall outcomes of our pause, I have decided that we can once again return to in-person classes as planned on Wednesday, September 30. At that time, the special restrictions that were in place for the two-week pause will be lifted with the following exceptions:

- In order to continue limiting the spread, we urge on-campus students to avoid gatherings at Hill Section residences.
- Informal gatherings in residence halls or off-campus residences should be limited to no more than 10 people.

Additionally, students who returned home during the pause are required to be tested for COVID-19 within five days prior to their return to campus.

Negative test results must be uploaded to the student health record using instructions found on the [Student Health Services website](#) prior to returning to campus.

Of course, all members of the University community must continue to abide by all of the [requirements of the Royals Safe Together Plan](#).

All campus facilities will return to the availability that was in place prior to the pause, including residence halls, the fitness center and indoor recreation space. Outdoors recreation spaces, such as Fitzpatrick Field, the Volleyball Court and Tennis Courts, will also remain open.

We will provide additional information details in the regular Monday update.

As we have done from the start of the pandemic, we will monitor this situation with great care and will respond to developments accordingly. I remain deeply grateful to our entire community for your commitment to the sacred work of the University. Your patience and resilience is an inspiration. Please continue to hold one another up in prayer.

My God bless you and may God bless The University of Scranton.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Pilarz, S.J.

President