



October 26, 2020

Dear Members of the University Community,

The University will continue to send regular updates once per week on Mondays regarding Royals Safe Together – A Plan to Reopen Campus. Other notices will be sent by the President, other members of Cabinet or members of the University community when necessary.

**Get Up-to-date Information at [Royals Safe Together – A Plan to Reopen Campus](#).**

#### **Report of Active Cases of SARS-CoV-2 on Campus**

The University has [instituted a practice to provide regular updates](#) about positive cases of SARS-Co-V2 on campus.

**Surveillance Tests: The University is continuing surveillance tests for all students, faculty and staff on campus** in a proactive effort to identify individuals with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, especially when they do not have symptoms. Identifying positive cases through this process was our intention and expectation. Doing so helps isolate individuals who may be contagious but never develop symptoms. **Members of the University community who have tested positive do not need to be tested again for three months.**

#### **Campus Metrics Summary for Oct. 19 to Oct 25\***

- The University conducted 1,170 surveillance tests of students and employees with a weekly positivity rating of 4.10%. The cumulative positivity rate on testing in the Long Center for the 8,965 tests completed in all nine weeks is 4.15%.
- 46 students tested positive through surveillance testing, 10 reported symptoms and tested positive through Student Health Services, and seven reported a positive test from an off-campus provider. All students testing positive are in isolation or completed the necessary isolation. Eight students are in isolation

pending test results. University contact tracers identified and notified students to quarantine as per established protocols.

- Three employees tested positive, two through the University surveillance tests and one through a non-University test. Six employees were notified to quarantine based on University contact tracing. Five employees are in isolation due to reported symptoms/response to the wellness app. Three employees remain in quarantine from the previous week.

Reported Positive Student Cases: 63

Students in isolation: 57 (includes newly reported positive cases)

Students in quarantine: 171

Students meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine or isolation: 153

Reported Positive Employee Cases: 3

Employees in isolation: 8

Employees in quarantine: 9

Employees meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine or isolation: 12

\*Note: Information provided reflects activity within a given week. Because the general timeframe for isolation (10 days) and quarantine (14 days) overlaps with weekly reporting, numbers between weeks will differ.

## Updates

- The University will host a [virtual Open House](#) for prospective students and their families on **Sunday, Nov. 1**. The virtual event will integrate recorded videos with live interactive sessions and panel discussions with faculty representatives from academic programs, and staff and students representing campus ministries, student life, athletic teams and other departments. The high-tech platform used for the event will allow participants to experience more closely an in-person Scranton Open House without leaving the comfort of their own homes. More information about the virtual Open House can be found [here](#).
- **Increase in Library Staffing Hours: Starting Tuesday, Oct. 27, all floors of the library will be open longer hours to accommodate end of semester needs.** Hours of staffing are posted in the building and on the website.
  - Swipe access to the first and second floors will still be available daily from 8 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. We ask that students move to the first and second floors whenever closing is announced, and also ask that students vacate the first and second floors by 2 a.m. to facilitate deep cleaning. Virtual assistance continues to be available 24/7 via Ask a Librarian chat. Masks must be worn whenever you are in the building.

- The University of Scranton **Diversity & Equity Campus Survey** has been sent to **the campus community from the Council for Diversity & Inclusion** and will be open until Nov. 13. The Council asks that all community members complete this survey as it is crucial to the University's work to foster a more inclusive community and to better understand the University's needs and how often members experience discrimination or harassment. The survey takes only about **10 minutes** to complete, is completely **anonymous**, and gives participants the opportunity to win \$50 Amazon gift cards.
- Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D., Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, reminds **students with 0-26.99 credits that they will be able register for intersession and spring 2021 classes on Friday, Oct. 30.**
- **Review and delete your Zoom cloud recordings:** The University's Zoom cloud storage is currently at 50% of its capacity. As we get closer to the end of the Fall semester, we are asking all of our users (staff, faculty and students) to review their cloud recordings from March 1 through July 31 to allow for continued cloud storage through next semester. Users can choose to delete their recording, or download them as an MP4 file and save to OneDrive, followed by deleting the recording from the cloud.
  - Click [here](#) for directions on how to access, download and delete your Zoom recording.

**You should expect your next regular update on Monday, Nov. 2.**

Sincerely,

Robert W. Davis Jr., Ed.D.  
Vice President for Student Life

Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D.  
Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Patricia Tetreault  
Vice President for Human Resources