



October 5, 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-CoV-2 on campus.

**Screening Tests (now called surveillance testing by CDC): 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.

Responding to the latest recommendations from the CDC for surveillance testing, the University will now do both random and targeted testing and will test students in quarantine. **Members of the University community who have tested positive do not need to be tested again for three months.**

The PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test that CSI-Dx is using for the campus surveillance tests is considered the gold standard of tests currently available, as it provides an indication of the presence of the coronavirus by looking directly for its genetic material. Such **tests can determine if someone is carrying the virus and whether or not symptoms are present.**

#### **Campus Metrics Summary for Sept. 28 to Oct 4\***

- The University conducted 1,023 surveillance tests of students and employees with a weekly positivity rating of 1.86%. The cumulative positivity rate of testing in the Long Center for the 5,754 tests completed in all six weeks is 4.00%.
- 17 students tested positive through surveillance testing, four reported symptoms and tested positive through Student Health Services, and 11 reported a positive test from an off-campus provider, including some out of state. All students testing positive are in isolation or completed the necessary isolation. Five students are in isolation pending test results. University contact tracers identified and notified students to quarantine as per established protocols.
- Two employees tested positive through surveillance testing. No employees were notified to quarantine based on University contact tracing. Three employees reported the need to quarantine due to possible exposure outside of the University. Four employees are in isolation due to reported symptoms/response to the wellness app. Seven employees remain in quarantine and one employee remains in isolation from the previous week. One work area was deep cleaned or disinfected as a result of this week's activity.

Reported Positive Student Cases: 32

Students in isolation: 52 (includes newly reported positive cases)

Students in quarantine: 122

Students meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine or isolation: 130

Reported Positive Employee Cases: 2

Employees in isolation: 7

Employees in quarantine: 10

Employees meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine or isolation: 8

\*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.

## Key Information

- Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D., Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, reminds students that **registration for intersession and spring 2021 classes will begin this week** with the following schedule:
  - Oct. 7: Graduate students
  - Oct. 9: Students with  $\geq 87$  credits
  - Oct. 16: Students with 57-86.99 credits
  - Oct. 23: Students with 27-56.99 credits
  - Oct. 30: Students with 00.00-26.99 credits
  - **On Tuesday, Oct. 6, Dr. Gingerich will send students more detailed information** regarding intersession and spring semester courses and registration procedures. The University is monitoring the situation for the spring semester and will continue to update the campus community as decisions are made.

## Updates

- **Wireless Networks at the University:** The wireless networks provide a means of accessing the Internet without connecting to a port using an Ethernet cable. Four campus networks are available. Each network is dedicated to a specific use:
  - ROYALGUEST: This wireless network provides a limited set of services to campus guests. [Get more information about connecting to ROYALGUEST here.](#)
  - ROYALAIR: Is used to connect to ROYALSECURE or to register and connect clientless devices (such as kindle and gaming devices) to a wireless network.
  - ROYALSECURE: This is our campus-wide secured wireless network. It is accessible to students, faculty and staff. [Connect to ROYALSECURE.](#)
  - EDUROAM: The University of Scranton has joined eduroam, an international roaming service that provides all students, researchers, faculty and staff with secure, easy to use network/internet connectivity across member institutions. [Get more information about connecting to EDUROAM here.](#)

- **The University's Student Health Services is offering extended hours.** The hours of service are:
  - Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
  - Saturday, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**You should expect your next regular update on Monday, Oct. 12.**

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