



November 15, 2020

Dear Members of the University Community,

The University will send the final regular weekly update for the semester regarding Royals Safe Together – A Plan to Reopen Campus on Monday, Nov. 23. Communications in December, while the University is not in session, will be sent on an as needed basis by the President, other members of Cabinet or members of the University community. **Regular weekly updates will resume on Monday, Jan. 11.**

Up-to-date information will continue to be posted 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 Nov. 9 to Nov. 15*

- The University conducted 318 surveillance tests of students and employees with a weekly positivity rating of 1.26%. The cumulative positivity rate on

testing in the Long Center for the 11,215 tests completed in all twelve weeks is 3.66%.

- Four students tested positive through surveillance testing, zero tested positive through Student Health Services, and six reported a positive test from an off-campus provider. 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.
- No employees tested positive through the University screening tests. Two employees reported the need to quarantine due to possible exposure outside of the University. One employee remains in isolation from the previous week.

Reported Positive Student Cases: 10

Students in isolation: 13 (includes newly reported positive cases)

Students in quarantine: 22

Students meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine or isolation: 42

Reported Positive Employee Cases: 0

Employees in isolation: 1

Employees in quarantine: 2

Employees meeting criteria to discontinue quarantine or isolation: 5

*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

- Robert W. Davis Jr., Ed.D, Vice President for Student Life, announced last week **procedures for students leaving campus as the semester ends**. The University will provide isolation and quarantine space as needed for students living in University residence halls through the closure of residence halls at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 25. Students who will be on campus for Spring 2021 may leave their belongings in their room following instructions shared by Residence Life. The full notice sent to students can be seen [here](#).

- The University received several requests from parents to provide a COVID test for students prior to departing campus. The University does not have the capability to provide testing for all students in that short of a time period. During the semester, we were able to provide surveillance testing for approximately 1,000 students and staff each week. **Asymptomatic students who wish to have a COVID test prior to leaving Scranton can contact a local COVID testing site.** When explaining your need for testing, we recommend mentioning that, as students, you live or work within a “special setting where the risk of COVID-19 transition may be high.” Students who experience symptoms related to COVID-19 should continue to contact Student Health Services.
- **Royal News will continue to send weekly issues on Wednesdays through Dec. 2, before changing to a monthly format for December and January.** A special Christmas Edition of Royal News will be sent in December. Royal News will return to a weekly format beginning on Wednesday, Jan. 27.
- Beginning the morning of Monday, Nov. 23, The Pennsylvania American Water Company is expected to **close the street on the 400 block of Clay Avenue as work continues on replacing a main sewer line.** The road is expected to be closed for approximately two weeks.
- **Review and delete your Zoom cloud recordings:** The University's Zoom cloud storage is currently at 61% 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.
- **Two Step Duo: Register a Secondary Device:** If you plan to purchase a new cellphone you will need to re-enroll your account and reconfigure your device with the help of the Technology Support Center **UNLESS** you enroll a second device in Two Step Duo. **It only takes a few minutes** and it will allow you to continue to log into my.scranton without interruption.
 - Instructions can be found here: <https://www.scranton.edu/information-technology/services/two-step-login.shtml> - tabs-1.

- **Reminder to Students about Mail and Packages:** Students living on campus are reminded to pick up all mail and packages before leaving for winter break. Additionally, please do not have packages shipped to campus during winter break. Due to the policies of delivery companies, the only mail and packages that can be forwarded to students' home addresses are those from the US Postal Service. We are unable to forward items from UPS, Amazon and Fed Ex. In the event that a student has a US Postal Service item that needs to be forwarded to their home address during winter break, please submit a request to Debra Price at debra.price@scranton.edu.

You should expect your next regular update on Monday, Nov. 23.

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