Greetings, colleagues!

We’re a bit later in sending our update this week than planned and offer our apologies for that. But I assure you that our back to on site work planning team is engaged in multiple areas.

I hope you can join Dean Wilkin at the next Hangout on August 18 at 11:00 a.m. We will provide many more details about our plans at that time, and you’ll see quite a few messages about elements of our work before that as well.

We’d like to thank those of you who responded to the survey Library Human Resources conducted regarding experiences with remote work and return to onsite work. The information you provided is very valuable to us as we plan for the resumption of services, and I can assure you that the information is being taken into consideration and helping with our planning process.

You should have already seen Chancellor Jones’s MASSMAIL about mandatory COVID-19 testing (also here). **In short, every faculty, staff, and student must be tested twice a week, if on campus regularly, and no more than four days prior, if just occasionally visiting campus.** For example:

- If you are working a hybrid on campus schedule (e.g. mornings only or MWF), you will be best served by a regular testing routine.
- If you are working 100% remotely and need to pick up something from your office or workspace, you must be tested no more than four days prior to that visit and you must test negative for the virus.
- Testing is allowed “on the clock”/during work hours. The times that you test should be coordinated with your supervisor and any testing dates and times that may be assigned to you by campus.
- Testing site information is posted here: https://covid19.illinois.edu/on-campus-testing-locations/.
- Testing results are currently communicated via an email from with a link to the Illinois Patient Health Portal, found at https://MyMcKinley.illinois.edu. We are still waiting for more information regarding how the testing results will be made shareable, via the soon-to-be-released “Safer at Illinois” app or other methods.
- Currently, testing results are being returned within 4-5 hours. As the campus becomes more populated, that return time may be a bit longer.

The bottom line is that we will all need to plan ahead. Plan to test the **DAY BEFORE** you need to be on campus, if you are only visiting occasionally. There are other very important details in the Chancellor’s email; I urge you to read through it and to let us know if you have any questions at all.

In regards to facilities, we’d like to provide a few updates:
F&S are inspecting each HVAC unit on campus, including those for the Library. There are specific air handling and ventilation requirements for any spaces that are occupied by the public, and any spaces we use for public access will comply with these requirements.

Bathrooms are being cleaned twice daily; Building Service Worker (BSW) shifts will be changing on August 10 to 3pm to 11pm to accommodate additional cleaning of spaces.

If you are returning to on-site work, please refrain from opening windows and changing the temperature on thermostats.

Over the next few weeks, we’ll be hearing more from Library Facilities about these topics.

When it comes to your safety, we are doing everything possible to ensure that we fully implement the plans which the campus has developed. We are exploring the possibility, for example, that the Wellness Support Associates may be integrated into our plan and that selected Library employees receive campus training to help encourage full adoption of COVID-19 guidelines. These efforts will help ensure patron compliance with face covering and social distancing requirements in line with campus community expectations.

We’d like to reiterate that it is incumbent upon all of us, as employees, to model best practices with facial coverings and other measures. That is a simple way that each of us can contribute to the shared efforts needed to ensure a healthy community, to show basic respect for our colleagues, and to meet campus requirements.

As always, if you have any questions or want to know more about something not mentioned here, please let us know.

Best,

Chris

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