COVID-19 Update
October 14, 2020

A community of learners improving our world
Presentation Format

- Zoom webinar format
- All lines are muted - Chat function is disabled
- Questions submitted in advanced will be answered throughout presentation

This session is being recorded and will be available on the COVID-19 website

Any questions submitted through the Q&A function will be answered at the end of the presentation
Agenda

• Opening Remarks - President Scott Olson

• Test, Isolate and Trace Group – Health Service Director Connie Kamara

• Academic Affairs and Classroom Instruction – Provost Darrell Newton

• Housing and Residence Life – Associate Residence Life Director Candice Guenther

• Campus Dashboard and Communications – Interim Vice President Andrea Northam

• Campus Engagement – Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Jeanine Gangeness

• WSU Employees – Human Resources Director Lori Reed
Opening Remarks

Dr. Scott R. Olson
President
Test, Isolate and Trace Group

Connie Kamara
Director of Health Services
Thank you!

- Students!
- Faculty & Staff!
- Community
- Quarantiners!
- Isolators!

- All those doing their part
  - Each of you, your efforts are making a difference and making this possible!
WSU COVID-19 Isolation & Quarantining Individuals

Axis Title

- Isolation
- Quarantine

8/31-9/6  9/7-9/13  9/14-9/20  9/21-9/27  9/28-10/4  10/5-10/11
Growth & Learning - Resources and Resolve

Old school won’t work, we need to reinvent ourselves

What we do individually and collectively matters - masking, distancing, etc.

Quarantiners and isolators are enabling us to be here

Notifying WSU helps the whole campus -
Storms Ahead - We’ll ride them out together!

Winter Health Conditions - flu, strep

Creativity and fortitude to get outside

Careful re-entry and watch the back and forth from campus
Q: What is our current definition of “Close contact”?

A: Close contact would be considered with someone who had a positive test for COVID, if they were within 6 feet for greater than 15 minutes. An infected person can spread COVID-19 starting 48 hours (or 2 days) before the person had any symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19. They should be quarantined for 14 days beginning with the last day they had contact with that individual. If they develop symptoms during quarantine, they should be tested. Even if the test is negative, they should finish their quarantine. We use CDC/MDH expertise. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html
Q: I understand that % of campus infections is a metric that can help decide what color you are (green, yellow (current), orange, red). You don't really say what numbers are used to calculate % of campus infections. Could you let me know how you calculate it?

A: For the percentage of campus infection, we use the number of current infections based on a 14-day rolling average and the number of students who physically are on campus for one reason or another f2f classes, living on campus, etc (vs our overall enrollment number).
Q: We feel there needs to be a testing plan available for students who need to spend time off campus with family so they do not spread to other communities. At least something needs to be planned for the future holidays where students are not expected to stay at campus during break. Do you have a plan to prevent the spread of COVID to students’ home community during holiday breaks or necessary time away from campus?

A: The best way to prevent spread to other communities is to reduce your risk of exposure in the first place. The best way to do that is to self-quarantine 2 weeks prior to traveling to another community. Testing is only a snapshot in time. Even if you do test, that result is only good until you encounter your next potential contact.
Q: Is the tent still available for COVID testing?

A: The tent is still set up – it has just moved a couple times – The current spot should be the permanent spot throughout the year. It is set up by the double doors that are located at the turn around on Johnson street entering into the Memorial hall. If the weather is not favorable, then we are completely the testing in that lobby area right inside those double doors.
Q: I was attempting to set up a testing time on my mobile device and received an error both times. I moved to a laptop for the third attempt. I'm not sure if this was due to the selected timeframe expiring or not since our desired apt time was no longer available on the third attempt, but I just wanted to report an issue with scheduling an appointment via mobile device.

A: We do not offer testing appointments via online scheduling. This was for the citywide testing event. To schedule testing with WSU Health Services, please call Ask a Nurse at 507.457.2292 or our main number 507.457.5160.
Q: What is your protocol is when someone test positive? Are the people they were in contact with notified?

A: When there is a positive case it is reported to the Minnesota Department of Health and they will initiate contact tracing or enlist our Local Public Health contact tracers or our WSU Health and Wellness contact tracers to do so. All contact tracers work under the authority of the MDH. In general, the contact tracers will talk with the person with the positive case and determine close contacts. They will then contact the close contacts and provide guidance for them to quarantine and get tested. They will determine whether a notification is warranted to have more people in the area, building tested based on their investigation. In addition, supervisors and others who may have someone voluntarily report to them can (without identifying the positive individual) notify the close contacts to avoid any delays.
Q: How does WSU Health support students who live on campus who just tested positive for Covid-19? Do students who test positive get to stay in their current dorms? Or does Health Services require the student to move to COVID living if they test positive?

A: If a student that lives on campus tests positive, they are given the option to move to our isolation dorms at Tau center on West Campus or if they have appropriate living arrangements elsewhere, they can go there. If they choose to go to Tau, they are offered transportation there if they do not have their own. They are delivered meals at Tau, there are laundry facilities available to them and a lounge where they are able to hang out with other student who have also tested positive.
Q: I am wondering what the regulations or requirements that school is following after a student gets tested. Does the school/WSU health services know the results of a students COVID test? Following a COVID test, how does the school track those who have been asked to test due to a high concentration area of outbreaks?

If a student is tested positive, do they have to report? How do you know if a student does or does not self report? What happens if a student falsifies or does not give results?

A: WSU Health Services is working closely with the housing, athletic, and academic departments to monitor for trends and identify areas of outbreaks. With this collaboration we are able to identify and notify student who have potentially been exposed or are higher risk.

Students who test with WSU Health services are notified by us of their results. Those that test elsewhere are asked to self-report if they test positive.

If they do not self-report, we will get those results from the Minnesota Department of Health because COVID is a reportable disease by law.
Q: If a work-study student needs to quarantine, can we still pay them their expected hours as COVID-19 time?

A: Yes, in order to encourage responsible behavior, a university-wide decision was made to continue paying student employees for previously scheduled hours if they are required to self-isolate. Please note the differences between quarantine and isolation: https://blogs.winona.edu/ready-for-you/quarantine-isolation/. A student in quarantine is still allowed to work, though working remotely is recommended. If the student is able to work remotely while in isolation (i.e. a mild or asymptomatic case) this option should be explored with the student.
Q: If this student tests positive, or feels ill, what is my responsibility concerning informing other work-study students who may have been in the same space working?

A: Because this includes private health data you should work only with the student reporting the symptoms/positive test results and encourage them follow proper testing and isolation protocol, and to self-report:

https://winona.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3HObFC7pk6O4ojX?Q_SDID=SD_2mp8nvChpiKNC PH&Q_JFE=qdg (link is on top banner of entire WSU website) From there, the appropriate contact tracing will result in notification and guidance to all direct contacts.
Q: Another work-study failed their self-assessment by indicating they had a headache on the assessment. Therefore they didn’t come to campus. Can I pay them COVID time for that missed day?

A: Students should be in communication with their supervisor about the results of their self-assessment, rather than just not showing up. Again, a student in quarantine is still allowed to work, though working remotely is recommended, and if a student is able to work remotely while in isolation (i.e. a mild or asymptomatic case) this option should be explored with the student.
Academic Affairs

Dr. Darrell Newton
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Most courses will move to online after Thanksgiving (Nov. 26-29) and will remain online through the end of Finals Week (Dec. 7-10). Exempt from this adjustment will be courses with necessary in-person activities (such as Labs, Performances, Field Experiences, Clinicals, and Practicums), which may require students to be on-campus to have the best possible learning experience.

Note: Residence Halls and other on-campus facilities and services will remain open and available after Thanksgiving Break.
Teaching in person should only be undertaken if necessary.

Deans of the colleges will be assembling a roster of those classes that must meet face to face to share with the campus community.

The classes taught, or how often they will meet, will depend upon the courses in question, and the provisions allowed by the Deans and Chairs.

In Academic Affairs, we are mostly concerned with keeping students, faculty, staff, and the community safe, yet provide the instruction and support this institution represents.
To reduce the potential spread of COVID-19, Winona State University will cancel spring break currently scheduled for the week of March 8 – 12. To account for the cancellation, finals will be moved up a week and would take place April 26 – 29 with the completion of the semester taking place April 30. Classes will start as currently planned.
At this point, decisions are still being made about the spring semester. We are closely watching data from MDH, other recognized sources, and we’re conferring with our shared governance groups, our student leaders, and our sister campuses on their plans.

Examples from other Minn State campuses include:
“We are not planning changes to spring break. However, that is possible given that the vast majority of our courses are being offered completely online or fully remote and we don’t have students living on campus.”

Amy Strohmeier Gort, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs
Metropolitan State University

“We are vetting a plan to cancel spring break with our bargaining units next week. We’ll likely spread those five days out through the semester as “days off” to help with faculty, staff, and student fatigue. MDH shared guidance supporting the elimination of spring break during their call today. We’ll know more next week, but that’s the idea right now.”

Matt Cecil, Ph.D.
Interim Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Minnesota State University, Mankato
“We are sending a survey out to our students this week to get their feedback on how things are going for them this semester and to get their input on some options regarding the spring semester, including potential modifications to spring break and the endpoint of the term. [...] We don’t want to finalize our plans until we get more input from our faculty and students, so it may not be until sometime in November that we have the spring semester schedule modifications (if any) finalized and published. “

Allen J. Bedford, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Bemidji, MN 56601-2699

“At this time we are not planning to make any adjustments to the spring break calendar. Our goal is to make it through the semester and stay consistent with our fall approach.”

Arrick Jackson
Vice President of Academic Affairs
Academic Affairs Administration
Moorhead State
“We have just begun discussion of options (no change; start early; end early) and will be making a decision over the next couple of weeks.”

Ross Wastvedt
Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
Southwest Minnesota State University

“This is still an item of discussion for us. At this moment it does not look like we will be adjusting spring break but that may change given the MDH recommendations from this week”.

Dan Gregory
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
St. Cloud State University
Commencement

• Fall commencement - MarComm, Mss. Julie Lutz and Kristine Benjamin

• The fall commencement will be modeled on what was done in the spring, but with the appropriate revisions.

• We will be offering a new Live Facebook event at 6:00 pm on Friday, December 11th. We also will be putting together Celebration Packages for the graduates.

• We hope to have them ready for pick up on campus prior to the Thanksgiving break for students who are in the area and will mail those that aren’t picked up.
• Fall commencement – lessons from the spring

As before, MarComm designed a Class of 2020 website. Most of their commencement efforts are captured there, with a similar effort for the fall.

Provided opportunities for faculty staff to show their encouragement: "clap tunnel" and Kudos board (classmate and parent congrats included)

Student storytelling: grads submitted their favorite memories and words of wisdom; we created a video. This link will take you directly to the student story portion of commencement -- about which we received much positive feedback: https://youtu.be/NoF8DGTEJ9s?t=1355

Created a Class of 2020 digital yearbook where students could submit photos and quotes

Social media support - Facebook frames - to celebrate our grads

Names list posted by colleges

Live watch party of the virtual commencement video (Dr. Olson, Tracy Hale, Student Speakers, Grad stories, Alma Mater by the band and choir, clap tunnel) viewable on the website, YouTube and Facebook
Q: I wonder that whether 2021 spring classes will be online or not? Do you have any COVID-19 guidelines for 2021 spring class?

A: At this point, we will continue to have most classes offered online. Much like this fall semester, classes that require in-person experiences (such as Lab, Clinical, Practicum, and Performance classes) will likely resume in-person instruction. Current COVID-19 guidelines remain consistent.
Q: Before one wholeheartedly embraces a technology such as remote teaching and learning, is it not prudent to first inquire how that technology might "handicap" learners and educators in the future?

A: Not necessarily. At present, when considering the urgency of the pandemic, we are far more concerned with delivering the instruction students have come to expect from this institution. As for the future of education and how technology might “handicap” us, many would argue that using an online platform as an alternative delivery method has prepared them for the future. With online teaching and learning, we are now free to work closely with colleagues and students anywhere at nearly any time. These options are far more freeing than restrictive.
Q: How safe would you think it would be to teach in-person? I hear that some students want in-person classes but some don't. All the classes that I will be teaching in spring do not use any labs/studios, so if I have to, a synchronous online (weekly virtual zoom meeting) delivery is a possible option. If I choose an in-person on campus teaching, does it make a difference to have in-person on campus meeting bi-weekly versus weekly in terms of averting the risk of contracting the virus (like keeping us safe)? Another question is that none of the positive cases came from in-person teaching?

A: Teaching in person should only be undertaken if necessary. Classes that require in-person experiences (such as Lab, Clinical, Practicum, and Performance classes) are an exception. Deans of the colleges will be assembling a roster of those classes that must meet face to face to share with the campus community. The classes taught, or how often they will meet, depending upon the course in question, and the provisions allowed by the Deans and Chairs. The final issue of positive cases coming from in-person teaching is nearly impossible to determine. In Academic Affairs, we are mostly concerned with keeping students, faculty, staff, and the community safe, yet provide the instruction and support these groups deserve.
Q: Why hasn’t the rock wall opened up yet? When will it open up?

A: We have been waiting for our new software which will allow students to reserve time slots to climb at the wall. Our opening date at this point is Nov. 2nd. Days open will be M/W/F & Saturdays.
Q: I just saw this week that there is a new e sports lounge open on campus and people are allowed to stay there for up to 4 hours a day and can go there up to 7 days a week. Why is this allowed and the IWC fitness center is limited to just two 45-minute sessions a week? Also, the e sports lounge is open 2 hours longer a day than the IWC fitness center.

A: Esports is among the seventeen low-risk recreational/club sports approved on 9/22 to resume within COVID-19 adjusted restrictions. The 4 hours per day rule is to accommodate a gamer's average session times but not have the same few students hoard the space with the limited COVID capacity. If you're a serious or competitive gamer, then you'll likely want to play at least that long, if not longer. The current capacity in the room is 12. After COVID limitations aren't in play, the capacity will increase to 50 (players and spectators) per fire code. There is a registration process to get an account created. Each time someone wants to play in the lounge, they have to 'check out' a computer or Nintendo Switch and request time. The system that allocates the games and manages the user accounts tracks how much time a player has left. Details are found on the website.

www.wsu.mn/esports.
Candice Guenther

Associate Director of Housing and Residence Life
Housing & Residence Life

- Isolation/Quarantine Update
- Guest Policy Update
- Building A Community
- Fall Housing Cancellation Requests
- End of Semester Preview
- Fall 2021 Preview
Dashboard and Communications

Andrea Northam
Interim Vice President of University Advancement
Campus Engagement Group

Dr. Jeanine Gangeness

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs – Rochester and Dean of Graduate Studies
Campus Engagement Group

– Pulse of the campus:
  – Zoom fatigue
  – Identify ways to connect safely
– Limiting person to person engagement (in the same physical space) has an unintended impact on mental health
Groups addressing engagement and mental health

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<th>Students</th>
<th>Employees</th>
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<td>JED Campus</td>
<td>HR</td>
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<td>Student Health and Wellness Services</td>
<td>Faculty presentation (J. Tye) spring 2020</td>
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<td>Counseling Services</td>
<td>Statewide Mental Health Summit 9am – Noon, October 22, 2020</td>
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<td>Program specific Wellness Week activities (CE program) Others?</td>
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<td>Students</td>
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<td>Virtual / Remote activities and support</td>
<td>Employee to employee support (Ron S.)</td>
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<td>In-Person Small Group Activities</td>
<td>Virtual Support options – promote</td>
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<td>Outdoor, mild weather to winter wonderland</td>
<td>Halloween Contest (HR) – allowing face coverings this year 😊</td>
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<td>Spirit Week Activities – (take note of activities that may be good to host periodically throughout the rest of fall and into spring semesters)</td>
<td>Small group lunch meetings (HR)</td>
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<td>Residence Halls – Sarah O. and Ron S. list provided</td>
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<td>Wellness Activities/ Health Services projects (Lori G.)</td>
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<td>5 K Pumpkin Carving</td>
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<td>Winter Activities options (Eric B.)</td>
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<td>Counselor Ed self-care week. Each day a different focus (sleep, nutrition, play, mindfulness, organization strategies); faculty are going to take time in class to talk about the strategy of the day if they teach that day.</td>
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Safe Connections
Plan to expand and support

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<td>Develop and distribute guidelines for in-person (small group) activities (Candice). Provide examples/pictures - Pumpkin Carving... others?</td>
<td>Small group lunch/coffee get togethers in the park or other options (HR/Lori Reed)</td>
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<td>Develop and distribute guidelines for pods (Ron S.) - 3X3 Basketball - Lunch or study group/social group</td>
<td>Expand winter activities list for employees</td>
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<td>Spirit Week Activities (Tracy R.) – (take note of activities that may be good to host periodically throughout the rest of fall and into spring semesters)</td>
<td>Could also be promoted for employees: Self-care week for faculty</td>
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Collecting resources to support mental health of employees and students

- Humanizing courses (Flipgrid)
- Workshop: https://mediaspace.minnstate.edu/media/Depression+and+Your+Students/1_ywa700iu?st=120 Posted on FD website.
- Add student activities to community calendar (MARCOM) – share pictures of safe gatherings.
WSU Employees

Lori Reed

Director of Human Resources
• COVID-19 saliva test for Minn State employees
• Out of state telework reporting
• Updated MMB Telework Policy and new form
Next COVID-19 Update Meeting

Wednesday, November 18th @ 2pm