

May 14 Campus Update Regarding Coronavirus

To the UF Community:

Good afternoon Oiler Nation. We have some important updates regarding fall planning, the CARES Act, summer health profession cohort graduate programs, and counseling resources.

Oiler Start Safe & Stay Safe

- As we prepare for the fall semester, the Emergency Operations Team sub-committee is meeting weekly to create the ***Oiler Start Safe & Stay Safe*** plan for the UF community. That plan, when completed, will include information regarding the following items:
 - Course offering strategies (fully online, partially online, and in-person)
 - Social distancing guidelines
 - Facility setup and use (e.g. classrooms, meeting rooms, offices, common areas, recreational areas, athletic areas...)
 - Cleaning and disinfecting protocols
 - Campus event/gathering management
 - Campus living guidelines
 - Campus dining guidelines
 - Support services delivery
 - Use of face masks and other PPE
 - Health checks
- This sub-committee will develop plans for various scenarios so UF can be prepared to deliver courses and services in light of potential COVID-19 impacts. A decision regarding the fall semester format will be shared by the end of June.
- Members of the sub-committee include the College Deans, the V.P. for Academic Affairs, the V.P. for Student Affairs, the Associate V.P. for Student Affairs, the Director of Athletics, the Faculty Senate Chair, the Director of the Center for Teaching and Program Excellence, the Director of ESH Programs, and the Farm Business Manager.

CARES Act Funding from the Federal Government

- The University of Florida's Office of Financial Aid is working very hard to ensure that all of our eligible students receive the CARES funds provided by the government. We plan to have the funds ready for distribution in the next two weeks. The funds will be automatically applied to your student account, and you will receive an email when this occurs. No additional steps are required on your part to receive a CARES act refund. For more information on what the CARES Act is, visit this website:<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/caresact.html>

Summer Plans for Experiential Health Profession Cohort Programs

- Effective June 1, 2020, COHP courses (courses with the following prefixes: SCON, ATTR, OCTH, PHTH, and PHAS) may have an optional on campus aspect to them. For those that do, the following stipulations will be in place:
 - Group size will be limited to ten or under
 - Six feet of social distancing will be required, and classroom furniture will be arranged to accommodate this

- Students and instructors must wear all appropriate PPE the entire time they are together
- Everyone must wear face coverings at all times while in the classroom, lab or other designated areas on campus
- Faculty members and students will perform daily symptom self-assessment
- Faculty and/or students will be required to stay home if symptomatic
- Regular handwashing, a reduction in sharing of work materials, limiting travel as much as possible, staggering arrival of faculty members and students will be stressed daily
- Signage regarding health safety guidelines will be posted in common areas
- Programs will be communicating directly with students enrolled in these classes to inform them of any optional in-person sessions.

Counseling Resources

- Just a reminder to take a moment to check in with yourself -and with others- to see how you are doing emotionally. Some common emotions during this time have been loss, loneliness, and frustration. And if you are struggling with sleep, motivation, and energy you are certainly not alone. Consider taking an [anonymous mental health screening](#) to check in on your mental health. Please reach out to others, both to receive support and to extend support. If you are interested in some apps for mental health, check out some of the following, considered top-rated for self-help. Most are free unless you 'tier up' for higher levels of services.
 - [Headspace](#) for meditation, mindfulness, and sleep support.
 - [Sanvello](#) (formerly Pacifica) for cognitive-behavioral therapy-based approaches for stress & anxiety.
 - [Happify](#) to help overcome negative thoughts, stress and life challenges.
- Please keep these numbers below for use in the event of an emergency. If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts, please call a support person, call 911 or go directly to your local emergency room for assistance.
 - Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255
 - Crisis Text Line: Text 'start' to 741-741
 - Hancock County Local Crisis Hotline: 1-888-936-7116

If you have suggestions or questions, please email them to coronavirus@findlay.edu. Also, please visit the [Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Information](#) web page for current status reports. Additionally, we would encourage you to download the Oiler Mobile App (available at App Store and Google Play), and enable push notifications.

As always, thank you for your understanding and thoughtful feedback. As we continue to plan for fall semester, we will share updates in as timely a manner as possible.

Regards,
Dave

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