

January 13, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Planning

Most of our spring planning is complete and we are just making tweaks. We are communicating with students about their [arrival protocols and updated policies](#).

Our efforts to #ProtecttheBubble will be officially reinstated when students begin to arrive on Jan. 27 (though a small number of students will arrive next week). In order to provide a place for families to stay who are bringing their students to Sewanee, the Inn will remain open until Feb. 1.

Tents for outdoor classes should be back on campus soon. That makes me happy. I love the tents!

Athletics Announcements

We hope that our spring student-athletes will have [the opportunity to compete](#) within the conference, if the numerous moving parts—including testing, contact tracing, travel, facility use, etc.—can be aligned to allow for safe competition within the larger University goal of completing an on-campus semester.

The announcement about a spring sports season follows an earlier announcement about fall and winter sports possibly competing this semester—with health and testing protocols in place. [Read more here](#). There are further details in [this FAQ](#).

Testing

Communications are going out this week about testing, which takes place next Wednesday through Friday for employees. All tests are now being run by the Sewanee Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, and we are using a new sampling protocol, [explained in this video](#).

Check out the new and improved [daily COVID-19 dashboard](#), which is updated each morning. The University's dashboard was recently [rated A+](#), based on completeness of data, local context, and readability. (Sewanee is one of only seven institutions out of 349 to receive an A+ or A++ dashboard rating.)

Don't forget the 3W's remain our most powerful tool to combat the spread of this disease. As the number of cases continues to rise in our region, please remember to practice the 3W's: [Wear your mask](#). Wash your hands. Watch your distance. It's important to follow good [COVID-19 protocols](#) both on campus *and off campus*, and [to continue to limit your social interactions](#).

Remember that employees who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and who are working on campus may request to be tested by our team. Employees who receive positive test results must

work with their primary care providers to determine how to proceed and must follow University policies related to COVID-19 and sick leave.

Admission Tours

The Office of Admission is beginning to offer tours again following the break. The tour hours and limitations are subject to change. Student-led tours are available to high school seniors at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tours will not enter campus buildings with the exception of All Saints' Chapel. Tours are limited to nine people, and visitors continue to be required to adhere to Sewanee's mask directive and practice social distancing. Prospective students may also take self-guided tours of campus; the Chapel is the only building they may enter. All Admission events are currently scheduled to be virtual this spring.

Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Nancy Berner

Provost