

August 11, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

There isn't much new this week so this will be short.

### **Planning**

Students are arriving! Today around 250 students were scheduled to move in: FYP, football and PRE leaders. Over the next several days, another 125 student leaders will arrive. A week from today will be another big day with about 350 students making their way here: First-year students in PRE, as well as more athletes on the soccer, volleyball, and cross-country teams.

Those who have uploaded their vaccination information (84% of them so far, up 5% from last week) will be able to move into their residences immediately. Students who have not uploaded vaccination documentation can bring it with them, or bring a negative COVID-19 test result that is no older than 72 hours, or can be tested upon arrival. If they opt to be tested upon arrival, they will need to wait for a negative test result in order to move into their residence. On-campus testing will be set up at Cravens Hall for same-day results from the Sewanee Molecular Diagnostic Laboratory.

A quick reminder: If you need personal protective equipment for the fall, please contact the Purchasing Office ([purchasing@sewanee.edu](mailto:purchasing@sewanee.edu)).

### **COVID-19 Dashboard**

Keep track of our testing results and vaccination rates by visiting our [COVID-19 dashboard](#) for this academic year. The dashboard will be updated weekly. It also provides 2021 data on new COVID-19 cases in Franklin, Marion, Grundy, and Coffee counties, as well as a link at the bottom to the CDC's COVID-19 data tracker website.

### **A Few Reminders**

- If you are symptomatic or concerned enough to be tested, please do *not* report to work. Likewise, if you get tested for COVID-19 at a local provider (CVS, Walgreens, etc.), do not return to work until you have received a negative result. Your safety is vital and so is the health of your colleagues who may become ill as a result of an exposure.
- The key to ending this pandemic is for as many people as possible to get vaccinated. Once you have been vaccinated, please enter your information into [our database](#). Even though at this point the University is not requiring that students or employees be vaccinated, the University urges everyone who has not yet been vaccinated to do so at your earliest opportunity, especially given the high level of community transmission of [COVID-19 in our tri-county area](#). The University's Public Health Office is available to help answer your questions or concerns.

Thanks to everyone who worked so hard this summer to get us ready. We've got this! Our experience over the past 18 months has proven invaluable, and we have the mechanisms in place

to make a broad range of necessary changes as the situation warrants. As important as having a variety of mitigation options at our disposal, last year we also developed flexibility and increased our capacity to turn on a dime, sometimes instituting new practices overnight. I know that the presence of the Delta variant is causing concern, and I share those concerns. But don't forget what an amazing job we all did last year!

Sincerely,

Nancy