

(The Meeting is Being Recorded for Posting Online)

COVID-19: Guidance for the UD Research Community

Virtual Town Hall

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

1–2 pm



Agenda

1. State of Delaware Update
2. UD Campus Updates
3. Operational Updates
4. How Can You Help?
5. Research Continuation Guidance
6. Questions - Chat Function

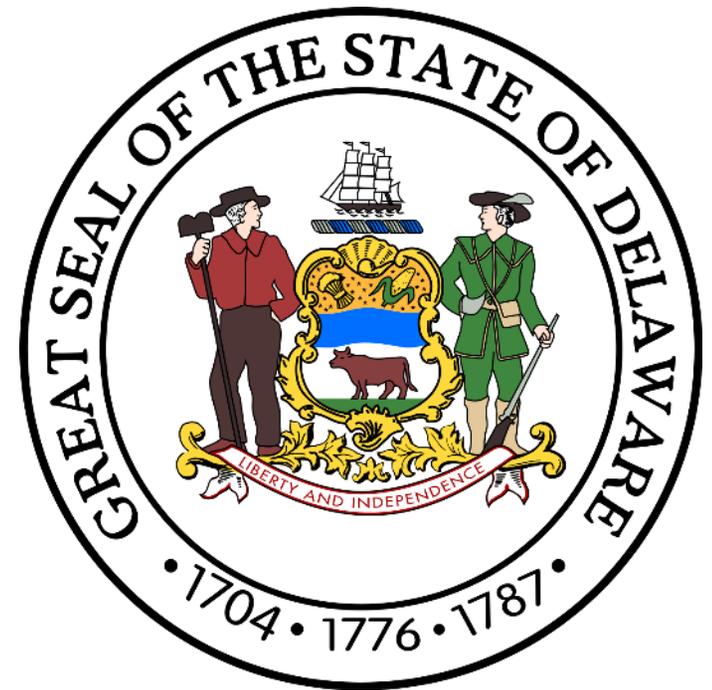
Communications—check these websites frequently (1+ per day)

<https://www.udel.edu/home/coronavirus/>

<https://research.udel.edu/coronavirus/>

State of Delaware Update

- Governor's stay-at-home order for Delawareans. Essential Business exceptions– UD research and operations.
- The orders go into effect at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 thru **May 15 or until the public health threat is eliminated.**



UD Campus Update

President Assanis Letter 3/20/2020

- Work from home has been extended to April 13. In case this period needs to be extended, additional guidance will be provided.
- Classes resume via virtual instruction on Monday, March 30.



UD Campus Update

Operational Changes 3/20/2020



Classrooms will not be available for UD Capture

Access is restricted to all University facilities including classrooms. There are alternate ways to record lectures. Please contact [Faculty Commons](#) or the Center for Teaching and Assessment of Learning at ctal-info@udel.edu for support.

UD Campus Update

Operational Changes 3/20/2020



Campus laboratories, classrooms, offices are off-limits

- Faculty and staff should not access University laboratories, classrooms or offices for any reason, including to retrieve equipment.
- Only those essential personnel who are maintaining living organisms and critical infrastructure may enter spaces.

UD Campus Update

Operational Changes 3/20/2020

Standard office purchases may be made with UD credit card

- Day-to-day reoccurring office expenses are permitted using a University-issued credit card. Not to be used for personal purchases.
- May be shipped to non-campus address.
- If you do not have a University credit card, such purchases may be reimbursed, provided they can be substantiated/documentated as a University business-related expense.



UD Campus Update

Operational Changes 3/20/2020

All equipment purchases must be pre-approved

- MUST be approved in advance by your supervisor.
- Purchases will be funded by existing budgets. The Budget Office is establishing unit-specific purpose codes.
- All purchases related to working remotely should be moved to these codes for reporting purposes.
- All purchased equipment is UD property and is to be returned to campus when there is no longer a need to work remotely.



How Can You Help?

Many of our alumni, parents and friends have asked how they can help during this unprecedented time for the University community.

- Give to the Student Crisis Fund
- Provide Advice and Professional Experience
- Show Your Blue Hen Spirit and Strength



How Can You Help?

- Personal Protective Equipment
- Laboratory Equipment
- Reagents, other laboratory supplies



Coordinating with Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA)

Collaborating with CCHS to secure reagents and equipment to support local COVID-19 testing.

Research Continuance Guidance

- Research administration functions continue to operate normally and remotely.
- Graduate College staff are available remotely to support graduate students.
- PIs with questions about management of their grants should check with their program officers, agency websites and their cognizant contracts & grants specialist in the Research Office.

Research Continuance Guidance

Research personnel (grad students, postdocs, research staff, etc.) will continue to be paid via their current funding sources.

- Grant-funded personnel continue to work remotely and charge grants accordingly.
- Individual agencies are issuing more specific guidance. (UD Research Office monitoring and updating website)

Research Continuance Guidance

**White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance
3/19/2020**



OMB Guidance Letter 3/19/2020

Expect Guidance to Differ by Agency

Research Continuance Guidance

White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance 3/19/2020

- Awarding agencies may allow recipients **to continue to charge salaries and benefits to active Federal awards** consistent with the recipients' policy of paying salaries from all funding sources, Federal and non-Federal.
- Awarding agencies may allow other costs to be charged to Federal awards necessary to **resume activities supported by the award**.
- ***Retention requirement of records** to substantiate the charging of any salaries and other project activities costs related to interruption of operations or services.*

Research Continuance Guidance

NIH Flexibilities Available to Applicants and Recipients of Federal Financial Assistance Affected by COVID-19

- **Salaries:** If a recipient organization's policy allows for the charging of salaries and benefits during periods when no work is performed due to the effect of COVID-19, regardless of the funding source, then such charges to NIH grant awards will be allowable.
- **Stipends:** Institutions may continue to provide stipend payments to fellows and trainees who may be unable to work as a result of or related to COVID-19. Recipients should notify the assigned grants management official, and provide documentation demonstrating the effect of COVID-19, and how long the institution will be affected.

Research Continuance Guidance

Direct charging of cancellation fees

I already booked travel for a conference or for data collection that has been cancelled. What recourse do I have?

Recent guidance from the Office of Management and Budget allows awarding agencies to permit recipients to charge **the full cost of cancellation** for activities **in support of the award**. PIs and grant administrators need to check the guidance from their specific sponsor to ensure allowability. **Do not assume additional funding will be available.**

Research Development Updates

- General University Research (GUR) mid-April
- UD Research Foundation (UDRF) late May
GUR and UDRF start dates June 1, 2020
- Chemours planning meeting, RFP delayed one month
- UD limited submissions continues.
Check listserv and website
- NSF CAREER and NIH Academies transitioning to virtual meetings
- NIH S10 and high-end instrument RFAs out. Contact your research dean or Anshuman Razdan



Anshuman Razdan (razdan@udel.edu) or Leigh Botner (lbotner@udel.edu)

Summer Undergraduate Research



- Planning for the programs is proceeding. Selecting scholars and identifying funding.
- This could change depending on how the pandemic unfolds.
- Contingency planning underway.
- Need to make a decision as far in advance as possible so that students can make alternative plans.

Iain Crawford, Faculty Director, Undergraduate Research Program

Research Communications

Continue to tell the stories of your research, scholarship, creative endeavors.

How are your students, coworkers and you adapting research to work from home? What strategies/innovations facilitate your work?

Email Tracey Bryant, Sr. Director for Research Communications, tbryant@udel.edu or your college communicators.

Supporting Our Community

- Students can contact the Center for Counseling & Student Development at (302) 831-2141 or (302) 831-1001 for after-hours emergencies, or Student Health Services at (302) 831-2226.
- Faculty and staff may contact the Employee Assistance Program within Human Resources at (302) 831-2171 and/or their health care provider.

Questions

Submit your questions via
the Zoom Chat

