

(The Meeting is Being Recorded for Posting Online)

COVID-19: Guidance for the UD Research Community

Virtual Town Hall

Tuesday, March 31, 2020

1–2 pm



Agenda

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

Communications—check website frequently (1+ per day)

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

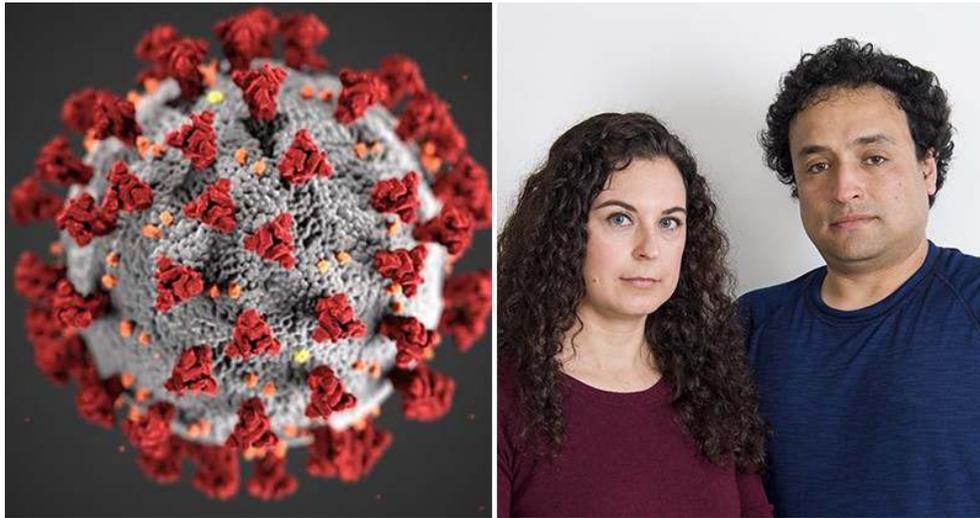
COVID-19: UD Responds

- How social distancing stresses the immune system.
- “If we reduce loneliness our immune systems should function better”
- Actionable recommendations for making virtual connections.
- Contact Prof. Jaremka to explore collaboration opportunities.



Prof. Lisa Jaremka
Psychological & Brain Sciences

COVID-19: UD Responds

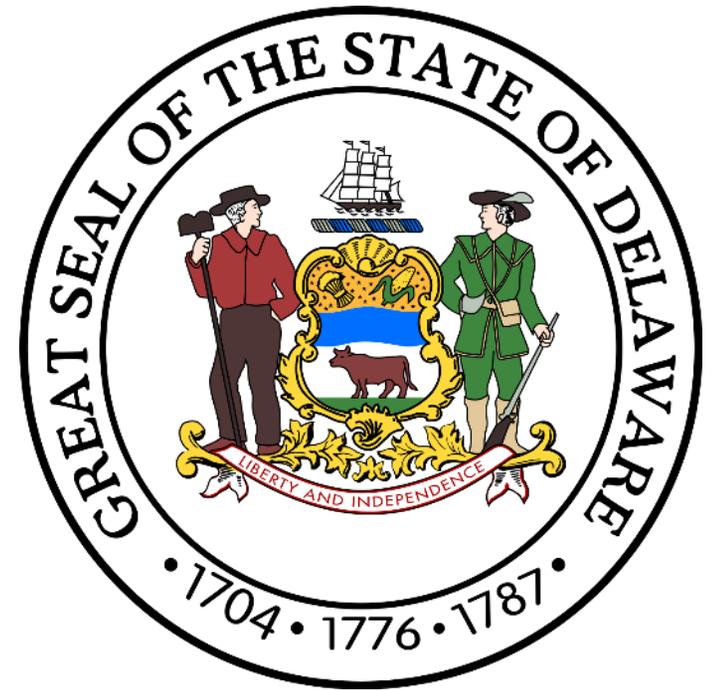


*Profs. Jodi Hadden-Perilla and Juan Perilla
Chemistry & Biochemistry*

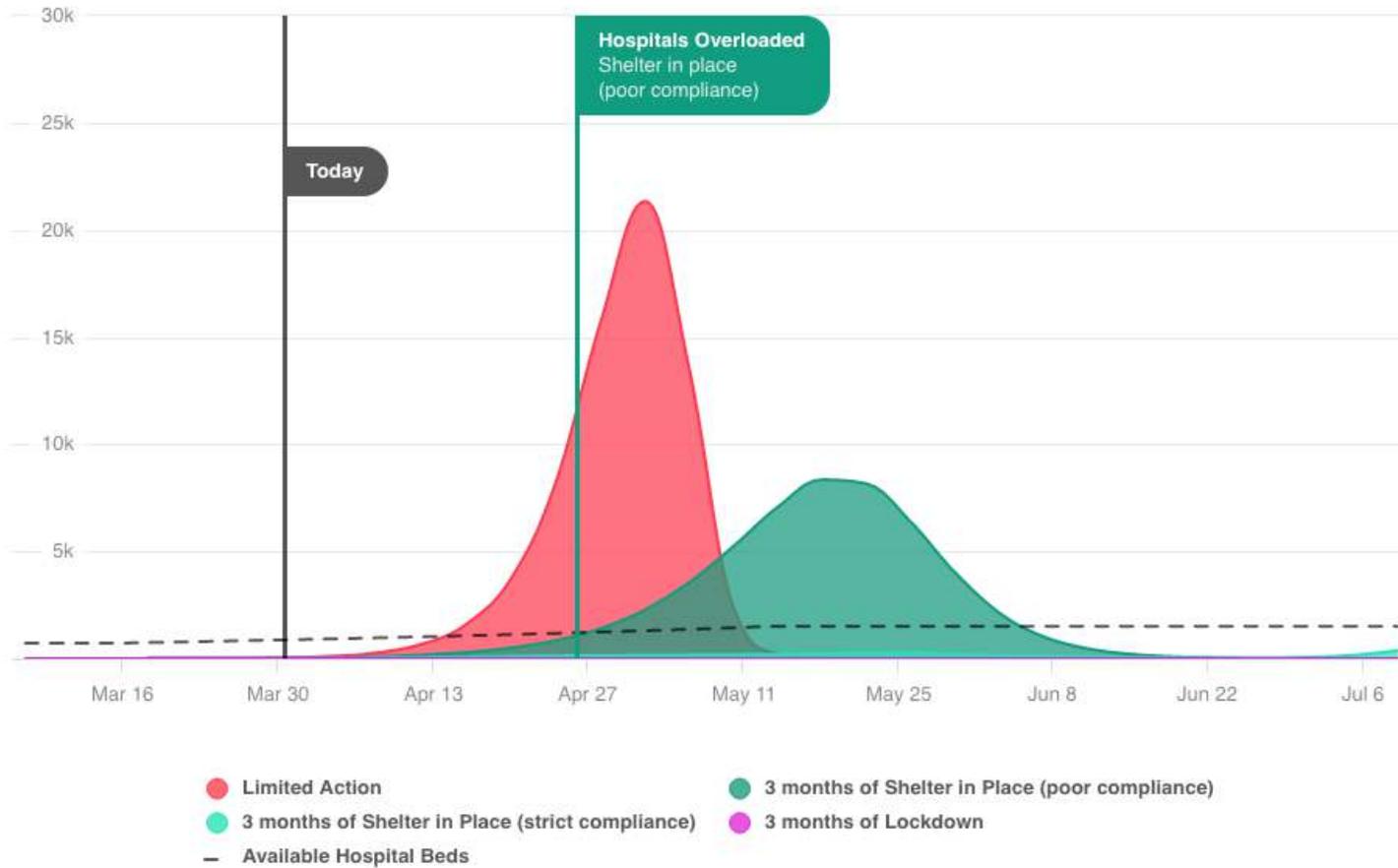
- National Science Foundation Rapid Response Research Program (RAPID)
- Learning about the structure “is now essential to provide understanding of viral entry and infection of human cells, a first step in developing novel drugs and vaccines to combat”
- Work performed remotely, including at Frontera supercomputer at the Texas Advanced Computing Center at UT-Austin

State of Delaware Update

- Governor's stay-at-home order for Delawareans. Essential Business exceptions– UD research and operations.
- The orders continue thru **May 15th** or **until the public health threat is eliminated.**
- Visitors to Delaware are to self-isolate for 14 days.



Projected hospitalizations Delaware





UD Campus Update

- Work from home has been extended to May 15th or until the public health threat is eliminated.
- Classes resumed via virtual instruction Monday, March 30.



UD Campus Update

- Undergraduate students: Updated academic regulations about grading, pass/fail and course withdrawal. [More details](#)
- Graduate students: Information about policies and resources for graduate students and postdoctoral trainees has been updated. [Graduate College website](#)



Policies and Guidance for Graduate Students

- Pass/No Credit grade option for graduate students
 - Faculty and graduate students will receive email
- Resources for graduate students summarized at grad.udel.edu
 - Also sent by email
 - Latest update to be released soon
- Policies and guidance for graduate programs
 - Sent to program directors and coordinators

Town Halls for Graduate Students

- Graduate College Town Hall (for graduate students)
 - Thursday, April 2, 1 – 2:30 PM
 - [Register here](#)
- Webinar for URM Graduate Students
 - Tuesday, April 7, 12-1:30 PM
 - Details forthcoming
- More to come



Notable Upcoming Virtual Events for Grad Students

For Graduate Students

Mindfulness Class with Prof. Amy Griffin

April 1 | 4:30 – 5:45pm

The Innovation Ecosystem*

Apr 1 | 12 - 1pm

CTAL/Faculty Commons Roundtables for TAs

Bi-weekly on Fridays, starting April 10

Details TBA in Faculty Commons Newsletter

Career Lab – Interview Prep & Practice*

Apr 8 | 1:30 - 2:30pm

For International Students

Virtual Network Presence*

Apr 7 | 5pm

Perfecting the Interview*

Apr 14 | 5pm

1:1 Career Appointments also available via Zoom!*

*Sign up for Professional Development events via Handshake

UD Campus Update



- [Teleworking Tips for Employees](#)
- [Supervisor Checklist for Supporting Teleworking](#)
- Performance Appraisals and Annual Reviews due April 30th

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 #UDFromHome



How Can You Help?

- Personal Protective Equipment
 - 3-d printing and sewing PPE
- Laboratory Equipment
- Reagents, other laboratory supplies

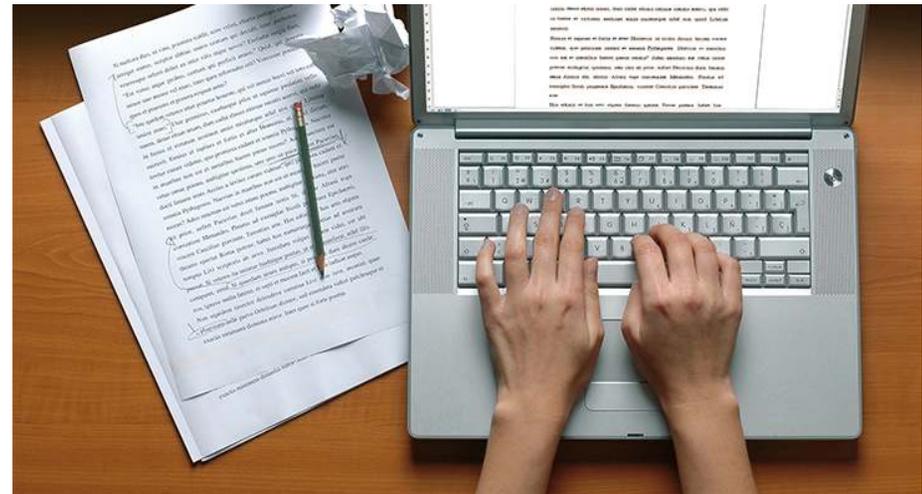


Coordinating with Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA)

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

Research Continuance Guidance

- Writing—proposals, manuscripts, review articles, theses, dissertations, op-eds
- Initiate new and unique collaborations
- Institutes, centers, program projects continue lunch and learns, team building remotely
- Access computational resources to augment your research
- Design and continue outreach programs (broader impacts)- planning and execution
- Complete Training Modules- [EHS](#), [Responsible Conduct in Research](#), [IT Security](#)



Research Continuance Guidance

Principal Investigators with questions about management of their awards should check with their program officers, agency websites via [UD Research COVID-19](#) 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

Can NIH recipients donate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and supplies acquired with NIH grant funds to local hospitals and health care facilities in support of COVID-19 efforts?

Yes, recipients may donate PPE and other lab supplies in support of efforts related to COVID-19. Recipients may re-budget grant funds to repurchase supplies at a later date, use large unobligated balances, or submit an administrative supplement request to the funding IC.

*UD RO Notes: Admin. supplements are not guaranteed at this time.
Document expenses for potential future reimbursements.*

Research Continuance Guidance

As an NIH award recipient, what information should be included in RPPRs due in the next 90 days related to COVID-19?

Recipients should document COVID-19 effects and state that research outcomes are not available at this time. Recipients should outline when they believe they will be able to include details related to the disruptions to the research efforts.

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

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**. University of Delaware Procurement advises if travel was booked using Concur/World Travel, contact World Travel (1-855-215-8312), a direct line to a UD dedicated agent.

Advocacy for Investments in Federal Research



- Salary/Benefit support for graduate students, post docs, principal investigators, and other research personnel funded by federal research grants whose labs are closed or severely limited in their operations.
- Ramp-down and eventual ramp-up costs to close and restart research activities.
- Inactivity at core or central research facilities...[which] are funded by direct charges to federal research grants for the services researchers perform.

...agencies should be given supplemental appropriations equal to 15 percent of their extramural research budgets for FY2020 to be used to cover requests for research grant/contract supplements due to COVID-19 related impacts

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. **Survey distributed to mentors.**
- Need to make a decision as far in advance as possible so that students may make alternative plans.

Iain Crawford, Faculty Director, Undergraduate Research Program

Research Communications

#UDFromHome

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

