

(The Meeting is Being Recorded for Posting Online)

COVID-19: Guidance for the UD Research Community

Virtual Town Hall

Monday, August 3, 2020

1–2 pm



GSG Statement on COVID-19 Discrimination

[See Full Statement Here](#)



We want to assure all UD graduate students from the Asian American, Pacific Islander and East Asian communities that the GSG stands with you and will support you in whichever way we can, not only as an organization but also as colleagues and friends should such an incidence occur. We also encourage all graduate students to be vigilant and to show empathy and support to members of these communities.

Americans with Disabilities Act at 30

Professor Karl Booksh has been an outspoken advocate and leader for people with disabilities, particularly in academia.



Academic Operations Town Halls

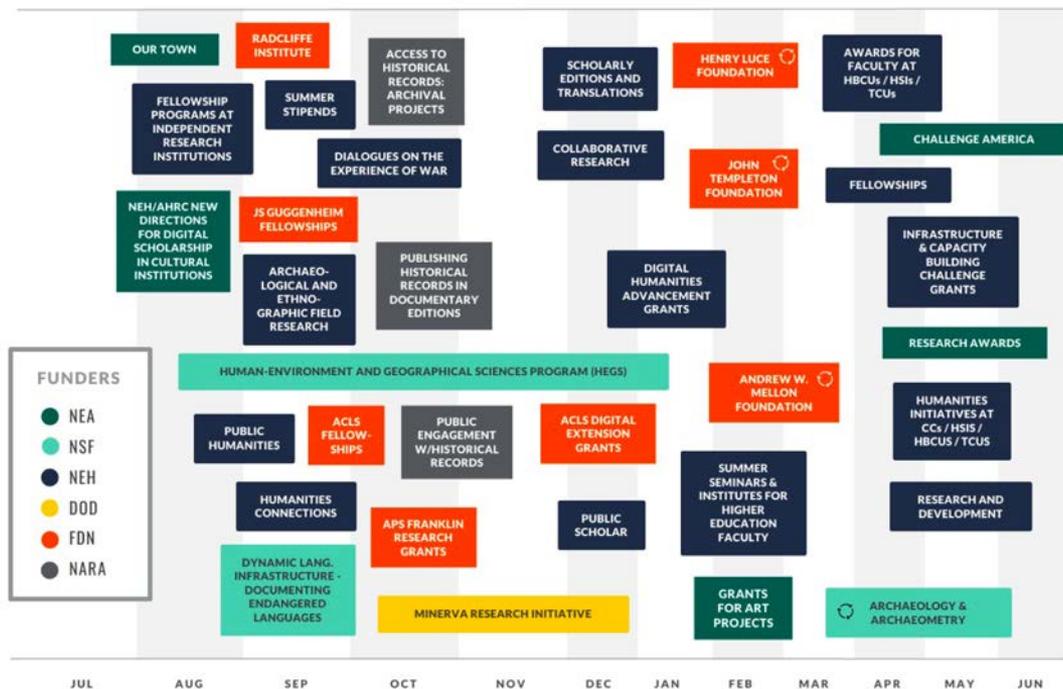


Hosted by the Provost's Office

Every Friday
1–2 pm

[Zoom Registration](#)

Arts and Humanities Funding Opportunities



Undergraduate Research and Service Scholar Celebratory Symposium

VIRTUAL

Thursday, August 13th

Time: 9 am-5 pm

400-450 presentations



2020 Edward G. Jefferson Life Sciences Lecture



H. Holden Thorp
Editor-in-Chief

Science Family of Journals

Scientific Publishing in the Age of Covid

WEBINAR

Wednesday, September 16th

1:30-3:00 pm



Fall Semester Commences September 1st.
Classes held on Labor Day; not held on
Election Day. In-person classes end by
Thanksgiving.

Most University of Delaware academic courses
to be delivered online. Limited on-campus
housing.

***Looking to the fall academic semester, we will
need to be both resourceful and flexible.***



State of Delaware–Phase 2

DE Public Health Continues
to Announce New Cases,
Recoveries and Deaths;
Decline in Hospitalizations



COVID-19 Testing in Delaware



State of Delaware has partnered with Curative, Inc.

Drive Thru events are being held throughout the state. August 7th, 9 am-1 pm STAR Campus

Molecular Test Based on Saliva Swab

Research Continuance Guidance

Update to White House OMB Guidance extended through September 30th.

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.

Due to the limited funding resources...awarding agencies must inform recipients to **exhaust** other available funding sources **to sustain its workforce** and implement necessary steps to save overall operational costs during this pandemic period **in order to preserve Federal funds for the ramp-up effort.**





Research Ramp-Up Phases

Click on each phase for more details. We are now reviewing PI request forms for Phase 2. If you already have campus access and are bringing additional coworkers on-site and/or accessing additional space you must submit a new Phase 2 request.

| ▶ PHASE 0 | ▶ PHASE 1 | ▶ PHASE 2 | ▶ PHASE 3 | ▶ PHASE 4 |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| <p>BEGINNING PHASE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential Maintenance of Effort • COVID-19 PPE Production <p>THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY</p>  | <p>TIMELINE JUNE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time-Sensitive Research • Some Field-Based Research <p>10-15% OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY</p>  | <p>ACTIVE/JUNE-JULY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab-Based Research Gradual Ramp-Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Field Based • Limited Human Subjects Work • Studio Activities: Visual, Art, Design <p>~33% OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY</p>  | <p>TIMELINE TBD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further Research Gradual Ramp-Up • Some In-Person Human Subjects <p>~67% OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY</p>  | <p>TIMELINE TBD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Normal • All On-Campus Research Resumes <p>85-100% OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY</p>  |

Phasing in Research

**Survey distributed to research community – Phase 0, 1, 2
Employees and Students**

Assessment of Phase 2

Readiness for Phase 3

Topics in need of additional guidance

Phasing in Research

Survey distributed to research community – Phase 0, 1, 2 Employees and Students

46% return rate (708 responses of 1541 surveys sent)

Faculty, 26%

Staff, 25%

Administrator, 1%

Postdocs, 8%

Graduate Students, 32%

Undergraduate Students, 6%

On-campus, 82% (of on campus, 83% are in laboratory setting) Off-campus, 18%

Phasing in Research

I understand the COVID-specific training, guidelines and protocols in place to safely conduct my work.

Strongly Agree, 76%

Agree, 23%

Disagree, 1%

Strongly Disagree, <1%

Phasing in Research

Adherence with guidelines (e.g. completing daily health screening, consistently wearing face coverings, physical distancing, no use of common spaces, etc.) in my facility/building/location is high.

Strongly Agree, 60%

Agree, 35%

Disagree, 5%

Strongly Disagree, <1%

Phasing in Research

Availability of PPE for lab research (gloves, masks, face shields, hand sanitizer) is adequate for my research activities.

Strongly Agree, 50%

Agree, 38%

Disagree, 5%

Strongly Disagree, 2%

Not Applicable, 6%

Phasing in Research

Cleaning of restrooms and high touch areas is adequate to ensure hygiene.

Strongly Agree, 47%

Agree, 47%

Disagree, 4%

Strongly Disagree, 1%

Phasing in Research

Given strong adherence to safety and COVID-specific guidelines, I would feel comfortable with implementation of Phase 3 of research reactivation in my own workspace, including the limit of one researcher per 125 sq. ft. provided 6 ft distancing can be maintained.

Strongly Agree, 44%

Agree, 37%

Disagree, 15%

Strongly Disagree, 3%

Phasing in Research

Given strong adherence to safety and COVID-specific guidelines, I would feel comfortable with implementation of Phase 3 of research reactivation in my own workspace, including the limit of one researcher per 125 sq. ft. provided 6 ft distancing can be maintained.

“It does not seem responsible or wise to open the campus up to phase 3 when the pandemic is still raging and the number of cases continues to climb.”

“I don’t understand why we are rushing to open everything back up, like are you serious? Right now it should only be the approved students and no undergrads in the labs or on campus.”

Phasing in Research

Given strong adherence to safety and COVID-specific guidelines, I would feel comfortable with implementation of Phase 3 of research reactivation in my own workspace, including the limit of one researcher per 125 sq. ft. provided 6 ft distancing can be maintained.

“Please STOP making UD's guidelines so much stricter than that of the rest of Delaware. It is crucial to get us working again (particularly the training piece) if we are going to be competitive research university.”

“We can't shut down and flush it all down the toilet. Time for people to put on their big boy pants and deal with adversity.”

Phasing in Research

I would benefit from further guidance on the following topics (check all that apply).

Utilization of common areas, 17%

How to perform research activities requiring close interpersonal contact (e.g. training on microscopes), 20%

How to share concerns with my supervisor/advisor, 6%

Locations where I can study/take remote classes in between work, 14%

Common areas to have meals/take breaks, 22%

Package delivery/pick-up, 15%

Other, 5%

Phasing in Research

In May, the following external conditions would be expected prior to entering Phase 3.

(+) Further relaxation of executive orders and restrictions [latest governor's orders have been relaxing some constraints: driver's ed and senior centers opening; although state remains in Phase 2]

(+) Local/regional COVID-19 cases minimal [positivity rate flat, new positive cases decreasing]

(+) Hospitalizations decreasing [current hospitalizations decreasing, new hospitalizations decreasing]

Phasing in Research

In May, the following external conditions would be expected prior to entering Phase 3.

(+) COVID-19 testing availability meeting local needs [availability sufficient; some concerns with turnaround times]

(+) Rapid identification of new COVID-19 cases with quarantining and contact tracing; [well in hand on campus thus far based on research and athletics pilots]

(+) PPE fully available [as confirmed by the state and survey of UD researchers]

Phasing in Research

Phase 3 will commence August 10th.

Phase 3
Further
expansion of
on-site research
~67%

- Research that can effectively be conducted remotely should continue remotely, including meetings, advising, etc.
- An indoor density of, at most, one person per 125 square feet will allow two-thirds of laboratory personnel to be at work simultaneously. More importantly than the square footage, it **is critical that work density continues to allow individuals to stay at least 6 feet apart.**

Phasing in Research

Phase 3 will commence August 10th.

Phase 3
Further
expansion of
on-site research
~67%

- Additional in-person clinical/human subjects research and extension/outreach activities are permitted.
- Common spaces may be used in a **limited** capacity. Specifically, at most, 10 individuals are permitted in a shared space provided the space can accommodate the total number of individuals separated by at least 6 feet. Common spaces **cannot** be used for eating/drinking at this time.

Phasing in Research

Phase 3 will commence August 10th.

Phase 3
Further
expansion of
on-site research
~67%

- Faculty may request access to work in their office on a regular basis. Requests are submitted to their Dean and then to the Provost for approval. **If approved, faculty will need to work alone in their office.** Additional guidance will be provided to faculty who are approved for access.

Phasing in Research

Do I need to complete an access request form?

Phase 3
Further
expansion of
on-site research
~67%

- Yes, if you are seeking approval to bring additional coworkers back, even if you have access in a prior Phase.
- Yes, if you are seeking access for face-to-face human subject research.
- Yes, if you are seeking approval for an outreach/ community engagement/extension activity.
- No, if you have access in an earlier Phase and are not bringing additional coworkers back.
- Yes, if you are requesting regular access to your office and have not been approved for research access.

Phasing in Research

Close Contact Interactions

1. Can the interaction be performed remotely?
2. Can the interaction be deferred to a later Phase?
3. If answers to 1 & 2 are no, then follow the guidance for PPE for Close Contact Interactions.

PPE, Including for Close Contact Interactions

| | Bench-top lab work* | Work with animals | Non-biomedical procedures with humans | Biomedical procedures with Humans (e.g., biospecimen collection, sensors placement, etc.) | Procedures involving generation of aerosols (e.g., exercise testing, invasive nasal/oral procedures, etc.) |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
|  CLOTH MASK | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
|  SURGICAL MASK | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
|  N95 RESPIRATOR | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
|  MASK & FACE SHIELD | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ [#] | ✓ | ✓ |

Phasing in Research

Phase 3
Further
expansion of on-
site research
~67%

All faculty with approved access for themselves or their coworkers are expected to review UD's Employee Guidelines, complete the COVID-19 specific training and any other outstanding trainings before returning to campus.

Research Reactivation Communication is Key

We are in this together; take care of one another

Individual accountability and responsibility

“See something, say something”

Resources for students—advisor, program director, chair, Graduate College

Resources for staff—supervisor, unit lead, Human Resources

Disability Support Services

Compliance Hotline

If you **SEE**
something
SAY
something

Research Communications

- A weekly update about fall semester issues each Wed. from OCM — via email, UDaily, social media.
- “Frontiers of Discovery” highlights summer undergraduate research with student profiles through mid-September.



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

Questions

Submit your questions via the Zoom Chat



Next Town Hall
Monday, August 17th
1–2 pm

udresearch@udel.edu