Dear Colleagues,

As you are all likely aware, last week Governor Polis announced a “Safer at Home” plan. Everyone in Colorado is still encouraged to stay at home, critical businesses are open and non-critical businesses are operating with restrictions.

I know many of you are looking ahead to the time that you and your researchers will be able to work on campus again. To that end, I am happy to announce that we have launched the Research Continuity Working Group which will take up all issues regarding the restart, recovery, and regrowth of the research enterprise. The first task that the Working Group will take up this week is to develop a phased return to on-campus research and scholarly activity as the State of Colorado reopens. In parallel, assessments of financial impacts are underway that the Working Group will also address. We will discuss more about the Working Group activities and progress at the upcoming open forum.

We will continue to keep CSU faculty updated on research continuity during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please continue to read the weekly OVPR emails, check in with your college’s Associate Research Dean, and visit the Research Continuity Webpage for updates:

- **Research Continuity Open Forum:** Last Wednesday the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) hosted a Research Continuity Forum, you can watch the recording online. You can also read the FAQ document created from the event on our website. The OVPR will be hosting a second Research Continuity Open Forum on Friday, May 1 from 11-12 p.m. on Microsoft Teams. Please join us to learn more about the Working Group activities.
- **ORCID iD:** By now, you may have heard about the ORCID iD. The Open Research and Contributor Identifier (ORCID) provides a persistent digital identifier (called an ORCID iD) that serves as a career-long identifier for an individual. ORCID iDs are now required for NIH Project Directors/Principal Investigators on individual fellowship and career development applications, and other sponsors are following suit. The Office of Sponsored Programs has guidance on registering for an ORCID, and the National Council of University Research Administrators is offering a free webinar on April 30, from 12:00 – 1:30 PM MST on “ORCID- Connecting the Research Community.” Register online.
- **Sponsored Research:** The Office of Sponsored Programs is working with investigators to identify sponsored projects in critical need of action in light of the new work environment. If you are an investigator or are working with an investigator that needs the OSP to interface with a sponsor, please contact OSP. Additionally, if you’ve had contact with a sponsor about the impact of COVID-19 on a project, please let us know that as well. OSP is here for you.
- **General Support of Research /On-Campus community:** Research Compliance Integrity Review Office, Lab Animal Resources, and Mycobacteria Research
Laboratories are continuing to work to support the research community at large. The best way to continue to do this is through your partnership! If you need hand sanitizer or similar please work with your building proctor and have them contact Karen Dobos to make sure you have these available. We ask in kind, that if you have excess 1, 3, or 5-gallon carboys that you donate them to the cause.

- **CSU Personal Protective Equipment**: Karen Dobos and Lon Kendall are piloting a CSU Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) decontamination program. If you are interested, please contact Lon Kendall or Karen Dobos to have a collection bin dropped off for this pilot.

- **Lab Animal Resources**: LAR is coordinating with the Working Group to draft a return to work plan specific to LAR personnel.

Once our planning process is complete, you will receive updates regarding the guidelines, policies, and procedures for resuming your on-campus research activities. As a reminder, the current policies do not place restrictions on research activities being performed remotely from home in compliance with the Safer at Home order. I encourage you to continue to advance your research programs through remote work.

Best,
Alan S. Rudolph
Vice President for Research