Return to Research Update Email Sent June 4, 2020

Colleagues,

The Pandemic Preparedness Team has processed more than 300 Return to Research applications and is continuing to work hard to review and approve applications in a timely fashion. Please note, the university is taking a phased approach to return-to-campus research and will not exceed 30 – 50% capacity in this current phase.

- Water Quality: As part of the Return to Work application approval process, building water is verified to ensure it meets water quality standards. CSU regularly tests the water supply but maintaining water quality is dependent on having sufficient water flow. Due to reduced occupancy in some buildings, it will be important for faculty and staff to help maintain the water quality by allowing the water to run for two to three minutes each day from all water sources prior to drinking it. If you aren’t sure if it’s been run for the day, please run it for several minutes.

- Building signage: Per Larimer county public health, we’re required to post buildings with signage regarding COVID precautions and directing individuals not to enter the building if symptomatic. Signage is up in some building but is being reprinted to included updated information. It should be available for posting next week. The Pandemic Planning Team will coordinate with facilities and departments to place the updated signage when available. The team also will make these signs available as a PDF to communications leads and they can be printed and posted on unit or laboratory doors, if so desired.

- PPE: Recognizing that maintaining an adequate supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) will be necessary to safely open the university, the Pandemic Planning Team is coordinating with procurement and central supply to secure and inventory a 4-6 month supply of PPE for the university. Currently, we’re working on sourcing and pricing the items and will begin acquiring the stock once funding is approved next week. In the interim, we currently have a supply of N95 masks, surgical masks, and face shields available if departments need them. We also anticipate the delivery of cloth face masks and thermometers next week. Central supply is working to create an online ordering system for PPE requests and the Pandemic Planning Team will communicate how to access the system once it’s available. We anticipate that it will be available within the next week or two. In the meantime, if you have questions about PPE, please email Lori Lynn at lori.lynn@colostate.edu.

- Research Continuity Open Forum: The Office of the Vice President for Research will be hosting a Research Continuity Open Forum Thursday, June 4 from 1-2 p.m. via Microsoft Teams. Please join us and ask your questions related to research during the COVID-19
pandemic. You can also submit questions via email to VPR_ResearchContinuity@colostate.edu.

Continuing to teach, research, and serve our community during the COVID-19 pandemic has been a significant undertaking for CSU's staff and faculty. We are working hard to bring research back to campus in a safe and effective manner. Together, with your support, we will.

Best,
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Vice President for Research
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