

University of North Texas System

Board of Regents

Schedule of Events for Special Called Board of Regents Meeting

July 31, 2020

Real-Time Livestream Link: https://livestream.com/untsystem/events/9225394

The University of North Texas System Board of Regents will meet on July 31, 2020, from 8:30 a.m. until approximately 10:00 a.m. according to the following agenda. It is necessary to conduct this special called meeting by videoconference with no in-person attendance due to the request by the Office of the Attorney General to allow for the advance of the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called social distancing) to slow the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). The meeting will be livestreamed in real time for public attendance at the link listed in this posting.

Agenda items are scheduled to follow each other consecutively and may start earlier or later than the posted time depending on the length of the discussions and the reports of previous items. Please note that the estimated times given in the posting are only approximate and may be adjusted as required with no prior notice.

Please contact the Office of the Board Secretary with any questions at 214.752.5545.

8:30 am CONVENE FULL BOARD

Chancellor's Remarks

Briefings:

General System Plans for Increased Face-to-Face Operations – Health and Safety

• Steve Maruszewski, UNTS, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Infrastructure

UNT Plans for Increased Face-to-Face Operations

- Neal Smatresk, UNT, President
- Wren Baker, UNT, Athletic Director
- Bob Brown, UNT, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration

HSC Plans for Increased Face-to-Face Operations

• Michael Williams, UNTHSC, President

UNT Dallas Plans for Increased Face-to-Face Operations

• Bob Mong, UNT Dallas, President

Action Items:

1. UNTS Resolution to Support the UNT System's COVID-19 Response Plans for Increased Face-to-Face Operations in Fall 2020

10:00 am ADJOURNMENT

Board Briefing



Committee: Full Board

Date Filed: July 21, 2020

Title: Resolution to Support the UNT System's COVID-19 Response Plans for Increased Face-to-Face Operations in Fall 2020

Background:

On March 13, 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic was declared as both a National and State Emergency. In order to protect students, faculty, and staff at each campus location, Chancellor Roe, the Vice Chancellors, and the Presidents and Provosts worked quickly to determine systemwide and campus-specific necessary operational changes throughout the remainder of spring semester and into the summer. On April 27, Governor Abbott outlined a phased reopening plan for Texas businesses and governmental operations.

Fall 2020 Plan

As our campuses and offices have opened in phases, UNT System is following COVID-19 safety guidelines provided by the <u>Center for Disease Control</u> (CDC). All relevant UNT System risk management guidelines and linkage to each UNTS' institution's plans can be found on the <u>UNT System web site</u>. As circumstances continue to change, the UNT System's overall strategy for physical return to the workplace will remain gradual and driven by our student needs, with utmost consideration taken for the safety of our students, faculty, staff and visitors. At all times the strategy will be focused on minimizing risk, while simultaneously optimizing performance and services provided. With this in mind, physical interaction will be minimized and the safety of the physical environment will be maximized. System-wide guidelines are developed and campus level plans are approved for fall by President's cabinets and by the cross-campus COVID-19 action team.

Each institution has some variability in their fall plans based on their location and residential population, with a mix of online, hybrid, and in-person courses. Campus-based learning that follows CDC guidelines will occur for courses where experiential learning cannot effectively translate in the virtual environment. At UNT and UNT Dallas, students will not return to campus after the 2020 Thanksgiving holiday; the end of the semester and final exams will be conducted remotely.

As Regents Rule 03.702 states that each member of the Board has a fiduciary responsibility to the System and its institutions, the Board is being asked to approve a resolution to support the plans proposed by the UNT System and its institutions.

Financial Analysis/History:

UNT System will close-out the fiscal year in a positive financial position. Proactive efforts to address the financial challenges associated with COVID-19 resulted in savings of over \$33m for the current year. When combined with institutional funding from the CARES Act (\$18.7M), \$37M in lost revenues and higher expenses associated with COVID-19 were successfully mitigated. The proposed FY21 budget will be presented to the Board in the August meeting, which also includes

strong mitigation plans for the upcoming year. Worst-case scenario planning with risk mitigation continue to be updated in the event that we are required to move fully online due to an insurmountable surge in cases.

Dan Tenney Digitally signed by Dan Tenney Date: 2020.07.28 08:54:17 -05'00'

Vice Chancellor for Finance

Legal Review:

This item has been reviewed by General Counsel.

Alan Stucky Digitally signed by Alan Stucky Date: 2020.07.28 14:06:49 -05'00'

Vice Chancellor/General Counsel

Schedule:

Increased face-to-face operations will begin for fall semester at all System institutions.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board approve a resolution to support the UNT System's COVID-19 response plan for increased face-to-face operations in Fall 2020 as outlined at the July 31, 2020 special called Board meeting.

Recommended By:		Lesa Roe
		Chancellor
	Neal Smatre	Digitally signed by Neal Smatresk Date: 2020.07.27 15:41:52 -05'00'
		UNT President
		C Distribution and have
		Michael R. Digitally signed by Michael R. Williams Date: 2020.07.27 15:22:45 -05'00'
		UNTHSC President
	Bob	Digitally signed by Bob Mong
	Mong	Date: 2020.07.28 13:34:29 -05'00'
		UNT Dallas President

Vice Chancellor for Strategic Infrastructure

Chancellor

Attachments Filed Electronically:

- UNT System Fall 2020 Plans as Outlined on Institutional Website
- UNT Fall 2020 Plans as Outlined on Institutional Website
- UNTHSC Fall 2020 Plans as Outlined on Institutional Website
- UNT Dallas Fall 2020 Plans as Outlined on Institutional Website



Board Order

Title: Resolution to Support the UNT System's COVID-19 Response Plans for Increased Face-to-Face Operations in Fall 2020

At an official meeting of the Board of Regents of the University of North Texas System properly posted and held on July 31, 2020, pursuant to a motion made by Regent and seconded by Regent , the Board approved the motion presented below:

Whereas, the UNT System and its institution have thoughtfully and carefully laid out plans for increased face-to-face operations in Fall 2020 in accordance with federal and state guidelines, and

Whereas, the Board has a fiduciary duty in the management of funds under the control of the institutions as per Regents Rule 03.702,

1. UNT System Board of Regents Support for the UNT System's COVID-19 Response Plans

Now, Therefore, The Board of Regents authorizes and approves the following:

for Increased Face-to-Face Operations in Fall 2020.

VOTE: ayesnays _	abstentions	
BOARD ACTION:		
Attested By:	Approved By:	
Rosemary R. Haggett, Secretary Board of Regents	Laura Wright, Chair Board of Regents	_

As it relates to the coronavirus (COVID-19) threat, the University of North Texas System and its member institutions are committed to the well-being and safety of our students, faculty and staff. As the State of Texas has re-opened in phases, our cross-campus COVID-19 action team has been working diligently on planning and implementing phased campus and office re-openings across the UNT System. Each of our institutions, as well as UNT System Administration, has instituted extensive safety precautions including elevated sanitization measures, reallocation of spaces and installation of signage to enable social distancing, the continued use of remote learning/working when possible and the establishment of PPE requirements and other safety measures. We are also providing training resources and PPE to all students, faculty and staff.

Current UNT System guidelines, applicable to all member institutions, can be found below and will be updated regularly as circumstances change. For information specific to a UNT System institution, please visit the COVID-19 web sites for <u>UNT</u>, <u>UNT Health Science</u> <u>Center</u> and <u>UNT Dallas</u>.

Fall 2020 Plans

(Updated 7/22/20)

The UNT System and its member institutions will continue to follow COVID-19 safety guidelines provided by the <u>Center for Disease Control</u> (CDC). All relevant <u>UNT System risk management guidelines</u> will continue to be posted on this web site, and each UNTS institution also has its own coronavirus web site with updates specific to that campus. As circumstances related to COVID-19 evolve, system-wide risk management guidelines may change. At all times the UNT System will be focused on minimizing risk, while simultaneously optimizing our performance and the services we provide. With this in mind, physical interaction will be minimized and the safety of the physical environment will be maximized.

Campus and Office Reopening Plans

- University of North Texas
- University of North Texas Health Science Center
- University of North Texas at Dallas
- <u>UNT System Administration</u>

Protective Equipment, Safety Measures, and Sanitization

- Significant safety/sanitization precautions will be taken this includes protocols for COVID-19 testing, contact tracing and precautionary isolation of individuals that may have been exposed to the virus.
- Masks are expected to be worn during person-to-person interactions in our facilities and some roles will require additional PPE.
- Our buildings will be deep-cleaned frequently and will have signage installed to provide clear safety guidelines.
- Flow plans for foot traffic will be created using one-way corridors when possible, and maximum elevator capacities will be established and monitored.
- Classrooms, offices, common spaces and residence halls will be reconfigured to allow for appropriate social distancing.

Additional Precautions

- Suspending system/university-sponsored international travel until further notice.
- Only domestic travel necessary for business continuity will be supported until further notice.
- Faculty, staff or students returning from countries with travel restrictions or visiting a UNTS campus or office from a country with travel restrictions will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days.
- Minimizing large public gatherings on all campuses.
- Payroll checks are no longer be available for in-person pick up. We are requesting
 that people transition to Direct Deposit or the Brinks Skylight Money Card. More
 information on the Paychecks Update on the HR site.

COVID-19 Employee Resources

- <u>COVID-19 Working Conditions</u>: for information on which leave options to use with clarifying examples
- <u>Cybersecurity Safeguards for Working Remotely</u>: for information on safely working remotely
- HR FAQ for COVID-19: for questions on how to respond in different health and work scenarios
- Your Insurance and COVID-19: for details on insurance related to COVID-19

Any UNT System employees with symptoms or exposure to the COVID-19 virus should contact their human resources representative and inform their supervisor. Additionally, employees with symptoms or exposure to the virus may contact <u>Texas Local Public Health Organizations</u>.

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS: Paid Sick Leave and Expanded Family and Medical Leave Under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act

Health Alerts (/)

HOME (1) / UNT'S GUIDE FOR RETURNING TO CAMPUS



Stay smart. Stay strong. Stay safe.



TRAINING AND RESOURCES >

WORKPLACE EXPECTATIONS AND GUIDELINES >

STAGED STAFFING >

PERSONAL SAFETY PRACTICES >

Stay smart. Stay strong. Stay safe.

What's on this page?

- Required Training Modules
- Important Contact Information and Resources
- What Has Changed in the Guide?

Dear UNT community members,

As we continue to navigate the global health crisis and its impact on our community, we have taken extraordinary steps to keep the UNT community safe, support our students' success through remote learning, and keep all but essential staff at home. Now, through a series of carefully planned stages, we are welcoming back students, faculty, and staff, but **our first priority is keeping our Mean Green Family safe and healthy.**

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We will closely follow the federal and state guidelines of <u>Open America (https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Guidelines-for-Opening-Up-America-Again.pdf)</u> and <u>Open Texas (https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/opentexas/OpenTexas-Report.pdf)</u>, but in true UNT spirit, we will emphasize caring for each other and our social responsibility to the health of those around us by recognizing the needs of those who are at high risk. It is vital that we look beyond ourselves to consider our neighbors' needs during this time, and that we protect them to the best of our abilities by taking all necessary precautions in and around the classroom, open areas and workplaces. We must be flexible and responsive if some in our community members need space or other considerations. I am calling for all of us to rise to the challenge of taking care of our community.</u>

This Return-to-Work guide outlines the stages and expectations for a safe return. Campus leaders consulted public health officials and risk management experts, among others, to develop **this detailed approach for balancing our educational mission with our responsibility to protect public health and our community.** This guide was developed, in part, with input from members of five cross-divisional committees that continue to work through the many challenges we still face today. The committees are Academic Affairs; Student Life; Operations and Physical Plant; Safety and Incident Management; and Research.

UNT's plans align with local, state and federal orders and ordinances, as well as recommendations from the federal government, <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)</u>, Denton County Public Health and the UNT Health Advisory Team. **Please understand that our response to the pandemic continues to evolve, so our policies and plans are subject to change when necessary as more information becomes available. As a result, please check this guide frequently for updates, which will be noted at "What Has Changed in the Guide?"**

Together, as members of the Mean Green Family, let's demonstrate kindness and compassion toward each other as we proceed cautiously and thoughtfully into the fall semester.

Stay healthy and safe,

Neal Smatresk
UNT President
<u>untpresident@unt.edu (mailto:untpresident@unt.edu)</u>

Required Training Modules

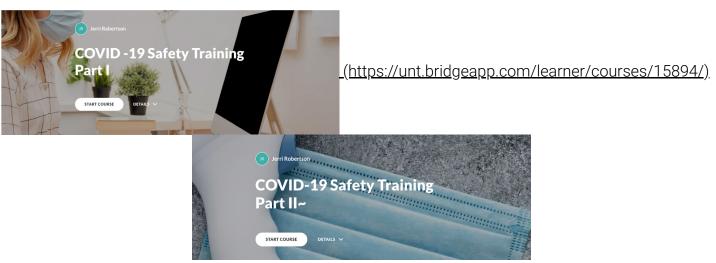
To ensure UNT's community members understand the safety guidelines and expectations for returning to campus, the Business Operations Training Team worked with the President's Cabinet to develop a two-part training course specific to the UNT campus.

The COVID-19 Safety Training for UNT training modules are available through the university's Bridge System. The training is required of all faculty and staff, including temporary hourly employees, and should be completed before returning to campus. For those essential personnel and those who returned to campus earlier, the training should be completed as soon as possible.

The deadline to complete the training is prior to returning to work or by July 31 at the latest. The university will inform you when the second module is available and its due date.

The complete, two-module COVID-19 Safety Training for UNT is now available through the <u>university's Bridge System (https://unt.bridgeapp.com/)</u>.

- <u>COVID-19 Safety Training Part I (https://unt.bridgeapp.com/learner/courses/15894/)</u>: The first part of the training, which includes an introduction by President Smatresk, includes information on the university's goals during this time, social distancing, personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements, and other important guidelines to help keep UNT's community safe.
- <u>COVID-19 Safety Training Part II (https://unt.bridgeapp.com/learner/courses/6cfc2e09/enroll)</u>: The
 second module contains guidance on assessing your health each morning for potential COVID-19
 symptoms and provides guidance on university resources for any employees who may be ill or selfisolated due to potential COVID-19 exposure.



(https://unt.bridgeapp.com/learner/courses/6cfc2e09/enroll)

Important Contact Information and Resources

UNT leaders recognize that the COVID-19 situation can be stressful. There are a number of university resources available for faculty and staff members. Individuals are encouraged to reach out for assistance, if needed.

General helpful phone numbers are

COVID Hotline: 844-366-5892 or covid@unt.edu (mailto:covid@unt.edu)

- UNT Student Health and Wellness: 940-565-2333
- Medical City Denton Emergency Room: 940-384-3535
- Texas Health Presbyterian Denton Emergency Room: 940-898-7000
- Always call 911 in an emergency

Shortcuts for COVID Information

- <u>Tips for Addressing Noncompliance of Face Covering Requirement</u>
 (https://healthalerts.unt.edu/return/non-compliance)
- <u>Guidance for Self-Monitoring (https://healthalerts.unt.edu/symptoms-monitoring?unttoday=062420)</u>
- <u>Use this Self-Monitoring Form</u> (https://healthalerts.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untselfmonitoringguidance-reopening-revised_hn1.pdf)
- COVID Reporting Scenarios for Faculty/Staff (https://healthalerts.unt.edu/symptoms-monitoring#fs).
- COVID Reporting Scenarios for Students (https://healthalerts.unt.edu/symptoms-monitoring#students).

Employee Assistance Program (https://hr.untsystem.edu/employee-assistance-program-eap)

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a free, confidential service available to help employees with family, legal or financial issues, substance abuse, or other stressful events. EAP programs are available to retirement-eligible employees, retirees, household members, and dependents. In addition, the EAP has developed <u>resources specific to COVID-19 (https://www.awpnow.com/main/coronavirus-cvid-19/)</u>.

Faculty/Staff CARE Team (https://www.unt.edu/care-team)

- Assists in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of members of the UNT community.
- Referrals can be filed at <u>report.unt.edu</u> (<u>https://report.unt.edu</u>) or 940-565-4373. You also may contact Human Resources at 940-565-2281.

Telecommuting Resources

- <u>UNT Policy 05.022 on Staff Working Hours and Flexible Work Arrangements</u>
 (https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/05.022_WorkHoursFlexArrange.Posted_0.pdf)
- Working Remotely (https://www.linkedin.com/learning/working-remotely-2015/working-remotely? <u>u=74650474</u>): A LinkedIn Learning online video course that will help you learn how to work remotely and remain connected to your team and organization
- <u>UNT Work From Anywhere Technology Toolkit</u> (https://itss.untsystem.edu/divisions/ets/esis/datacomm/remote-accessvpn-guide)
- UNT Work From Anywhere FAQ (https://online.unt.edu/work)

Manager's Toolkit

- Managing Virtual Teams (https://www.linkedin.com/learning/managing-virtual-teams-2014/welcome? u=74650474): A LinkedIn Learning online video course with tips and strategies to help you successfully manage your remote staff
- <u>Guide to Managing Remote Staff</u>

 (https://hr.untsystem.edu/sites/default/files/documents/managing_remote_staff_online_guide.pdf): A

 detailed guide on best practices for keeping a remote team focused, productive and engaged

Emergency Notification Information

- Learn more about <u>Eagle Alert (https://www.unt.edu/eaglealert)</u>emergency notifications.
- Maintain your phone number to receive Eagle Alert notifications through the employee portal in <u>my.unt.edu (https://portal.unt.edu/psp/ps/EMPLOYEE/EMPL/h/?tab=SYPA_GUEST)</u>.

What Has Changed in the Guide?

UNT's Guide for Returning to Campus launched July 1.

UNT's response to the pandemic continues to evolve, so our policies and plans are subject to change when necessary as more information becomes available. As a result, please check this section of the guide frequently for updates. Updates to various sections will be noted here so you can easily find information you need.



Masks Required

UNT requires students, faculty, staff and any visitors to wear face coverings at all of our campus locations, effective immediately. Read the UNT System's guidelines on Face Coverings and PPE (https://www.untsystem.edu/covid-response-guidelines#toc-3). Visit the CDC for tips (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html).



Keeping Each Other Safe

To help keep our community healthy and safe, it is very important for you to monitor your health prior to coming to campus so we can work to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

<u>Use this Self-Monitoring Form (https://healthalerts.unt.edu/symptoms-monitoring)</u>

<u>COVID Reporting Scenarios for Faculty/Staff (https://healthalerts.unt.edu/symptoms-monitoring#fs)</u>

<u>COVID Reporting Scenarios for Students (https://healthalerts.unt.edu/symptoms-monitoring#students)</u>



COVID Hotline

Community members may call or email with questions related to COVID-19's impact on UNT. 844-366-5892

COVID@unt.edu (mailto:COVID@unt.edu)

ncov%2Fprepare%2Fprevention.html).

<u>Learn about COVID-19 (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html)</u>.

Learn how to <u>prevent the spread of COVID-19 (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html?</u>

<u>CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-</u>

How to learn remotely

Visit <u>LearnAnywhere.unt.edu (https://online.unt.edu/learn)</u> for information about attending classes remotely.

LEARN ABOUT LEARNING REMOTELY >

How to teach remotely

Visit <u>TeachAnywhere.unt.edu</u> (<u>https://online.unt.edu/teach</u>) for assistance in delivering your class online.

LEARN ABOUT TEACHING ONLINE >

How to work remotely

Visit WorkAnywhere.unt.edu (https://online.unt.edu/work	<u>k)</u> for resources to assist you in temporarily working
away from campus.	

LEARN ABOUT WORKING REMOTELY >

Helping students

If you'd like to show your support during these challenging times, UNT has established a special fund to help UNT students with immediate and pressing needs.

DONATE NOW >

im Information about UNT events

In the interest of helping keep our community healthy and safe, UNT has canceled all events as of now. University leaders are exploring event options for Fall 2020.

Self-report ALL international travel

SELF REPORT FORM >

Register your UNT business travel

ALL official UNT business travel is suspended. Requests require submission of a Travel Exception Form. Anyone who is planning travel should <u>register your trip with UNT (https://emergency.unt.edu/traveling-internationally)</u>. This will allow the university to contact you in the event of a major emergency or changing circumstances related to your travel destination.

REGISTER YOUR TRAVEL >

HSC Campus Reopening Plan

HSC will begin a **reopening of campus on June 8 for supervisors and June 15 for additional team members as approved by their supervisor** (see <u>HSC Reopening Plan FAQs</u> for more detail).

The institution's priorities during this transition are to protect the health of employees, students and the community; and to carefully and deliberately mitigate negative health and safety impacts. The reopening plan will remain flexible and will be continually evaluated in order to remain in accordance with guidance and data from federal, state, local governments, and university health professionals. All team members (employees and students) must take an online **Campus Re-entry Education** before returning.

Our HSC values and Code of Culture serve as a guide for reopening:

- Serve Others First: Demonstrate compassion, care and humility.
- Integrity: Conduct ourselves with honesty, trustworthiness and dependability.
- Respect: Build trust by honoring our word through actions.
- Collaboration: Combine our strengths to discover new ideas and share best practices.
- Be Visionary: Create unique ways to provide remarkable service, and navigate change to move us forward.

Guidelines

The safety and well-being of team members is HSC's top concern. Therefore, all team members should follow established guidelines.

- 1. Stay home if you are sick or experience any potential COVID-19 symptoms
 - Notify your supervisor if you are sick or experiencing symptoms
 - Contact your primary care physician or contact the <u>Priority Care Clinic</u> at 817-735-CARE (2273)

2. Wear a mask

 Effective June 25, 2020, face coverings (cloth face coverings, disposable masks, etc.) must be worn by all students, faculty, staff, contractors, tenants and visitors at all UNT System locations and campuses in the following areas:

- Indoor public areas, except where marked, even if you are alone. This includes all classrooms, non-private offices and common spaces in residential facilities.
- Outdoor spaces where six feet or more of physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Full details of the face covering requirement may be viewed on the <u>UNT System COVID-19</u> web site.
- Any questions related to face coverings, or any of the UNT System's risk management guidelines, may be sent to: <u>covid@untsystem.edu</u>.

3. Promote behaviors that reduce spread

- Practice hand hygiene and sneezing and coughing etiquette
- Adhere to posted signage regarding directives and expectations

4. Promote behaviors that reduce spread

- Practice hand hygiene and sneezing and coughing etiquette
- It is mandatory that you wear a face covering in the presence of others and in public settings where physical distancing measures are difficult to maintain
- o Adhere to posted signage regarding directives and expectations

5. Maintain healthy environments

- Clean and disinfect work areas and shared spaces daily
- Do not share items difficult to clean
- Physical distance at least 6 feet from other individuals

6. Maintain healthy operations

- Limit gatherings over 10 people (until further notice) and be respectful in common areas
- o Practice innovative work practices such as virtual meetings, etc.
- Contact HSCCOVID@unthsc.edu. if you are made aware of a positive COVID-19 case
- Self-assess for symptoms daily before coming to campus
- Support your team members and colleagues while coping with our new campus life

7. Prepare for when someone gets sick

- Know what symptoms to look for and advise potentially sick individuals to stay home
- Notify your supervisor if you are sick or have questions about what to do if you or someone you know has symptoms

Our Frequently Asked Questions will provide our team members guidance and additional details on how to promote a safe and healthy return for employees and students, and how to handle situations that may arise.

HSC Campus Reopening Plan FAQs

Campus Signage

Thank you for all you do for the HSC and supporting our mission, vision and values. By following these recommendations, you are contributing to a safe and healthy environment for the HSC family and our community.

HSC Campus Reopening Plan Team

- Jason Hartley, Operations, Co-Chair
- Trisha Van Duser, Division of Student Affairs, Co-Chair
- · Joanna Baksh, Office of the President
- Alex Branch, Office of Brand & Communications
- Angela Brown, HSC Campus Human Resources
- Amy Buresh, Office of Brand & Communications
- Tom Cunningham, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- Chris Erickson, Environmental Health & Safety
- Lisa Hodge, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- Rob McClain, Research & Commercialization
- Kim Meyer, Center for Innovative Learning
- Desiree Ramirez, Office of Institutional Compliance & Integrity
- A.J. Randolph, HSC Clinical Practice Group
- Michele Whitehead, Lewis Library

This page was last modified on July 6, 2020

UNT DALLAS FALL 2020 SEMESTER WILL BE CONDUCTED MOSTLY ONLINE



Greetings Students, Faculty and Staff,

For the past few months, the university leadership has worked with six campus committees to plan for a safe and effective fall semester. We've taken extraordinary care to make decisions that prioritize the health of our students, faculty and staff. Several factors guided our decisions including a surge in COVID-19 cases in the Dallas area, an increase in the number of young people who are testing positive for the virus and the science behind how the virus is spread.

The following information pertains to the Fall 2020 semester only.

UNT Dallas tuition will not increase and the university is evaluating a reduction in certain student fees. Details regarding student fees will be announced at a later date.

The UNT Dallas main campus will offer courses predominately in a virtual learning format beginning August 24. Only two classes are scheduled to meet in-person on the UNT Dallas campus. The majority of Fall 2020 classes will be conducted in a virtual learning format. Class instruction will be provided with the use of videoconference technology (Zoom and Microsoft Teams), and other methods such as recorded lectures via Panopto and Canvas, our official online platform.

Classes at the UNT Dallas College of Law (COL) will begin with Fundamentals on August 3. Orientation will take place on August 5 and August 10. Fundamentals and Orientation will be delivered in a virtual learning format for first-year students.

Classes for upper division COL students will begin on August 24. Select upper division law classes will be provided in a virtual learning format, while others will be provided in-person. Students are advised to review the syllabus for each of their courses on Canvas to determine how the class content will be delivered.

All classes for the UNT Dallas main campus and the COL will transition to a virtual learning format after the Thanksgiving holiday.

In order to assist students with the technology needed to successfully learn from home, UNT Dallas will have a limited number of Chromebooks or laptops and WiFi hotspots available to check out for those who need support. Students may request technology support by calling or texting the student hotline at 972-638-9164.

The university will operate with a limited number of staff members on campus. The majority of staff members will continue to work remotely, visiting campus with supervisor coordination. A disposable mask or an appropriate cloth face covering will be required to return to campus.

UNT Dallas strongly suggests each person carry their own personal face covering (mask) with them at all times when on campus. The University will have a supply of masks available in certain locations across the campus in the event someone (i.e., guests/visitors and/or members of the campus community) should need a face covering.

Fall 2020 Semester plan details include:

CAMPUS HOUSING

- Wisdom Hall will open at 50% capacity with one student per room and bathroom
- Wisdom Hall will close at the beginning of the Thanksgiving holiday; housing fees will be prorated with discounts applied to the initial housing contract
- Students may leave their personal belongings in the residence hall as long as the student plans to return to the residence hall in Spring 2021
- UNT Dallas Campus Police continue to secure the university and are available to assist students with campus safety needs
- To strengthen social distancing protocols, boxed meals will be provided for students residing on campus

AVAILABLE SERVICES - ON CAMPUS

- The Student Health Clinic will open by appointment only
- The College of Law Library will open with social distancing and capacity limits strictly enforced
- The UNT Dallas main campus library will open on a limited basis and by appointment only; the virtual library is available 24 hours
- Computer labs will open by appointment only; hours will be determined by student demand
- The Campus Bookstore will open with limited hours
- Starbucks will open with limited hours and offer select food and beverage options
- External use of university space will be limited; decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis

AVAILABLE SERVICES - VIRTUAL

- Telehealth appointments will be available with the Student Health Clinic
- Counseling, tutoring and advising services will be offered virtually
- Freshman seminar (UGST) will operate virtually
- Faculty members will continue to report mid-term grades for 1000-2000 level classes and provide early alerts to keep students informed of their academic progress

- <u>In order to provide a level of personal interaction with students</u>, all faculty members will be available for virtual office hours; full-time faculty members will offer 8-hours of virtual office hours each week
- Trailblazer Elite will operate virtually with occasional in-person activities; counseling, advising and mentoring services will be provided virtually
- The Early College High School program will operate virtually, starting August 17, with special attention provided through programming; laptop and WiFi assistance is available

EMPLOYEES

- To ensure the health and safety of our employees, only 25-30% of staff members will return to work on campus; the majority of staff will continue to work remotely
- Staff and student workers who plan to return to campus must coordinate with their supervisor and follow all safety and social distancing protocols
- The majority of faculty members will continue to work remotely, unless otherwise specified

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

- Planning is underway for UNT Dallas Spring 2020 and all Fall 2020 commencement ceremonies
- More information will be shared once the commencement committee has finalized plans for these important celebrations

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

 Athletics is scheduled to begin on time; an athletics advisory committee has been formed to recommend operational guidelines

The university leadership will continue to work with the campus committees to monitor our ongoing health crisis and make decisions that provide the best educational environment while keeping our students and employees safe. Our goal is to provide each of our students with the tools to complete the semester successfully and for our seniors to graduate. Please continue to check your campus email and visit our knowledge center at untdallas.edu/covid for additional information, current updates and required protocols for a safe return to campus.

The health of our Trailblazer community is extremely important to all of us. We hope that you continue to follow the Center for Disease Control guidelines, as well as local and state recommendations to help keep you, your family and your Trailblazer community safe.

Wishing you good health and a successful fall semester,

Bob Mong UNT Dallas President