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Coronavirus Update 11-3-20

The Coronavirus Planning Team

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Dear members of the Sacred Heart University community,

With a rise in COVID cases around the state, Connecticut’s governor has rolled back many of the state regulations from Phase 3 to Phase 2. This does not have a tremendous impact on the University, because we did not move to Phase 3 in many areas. However, there are some changes when it comes to gatherings. Please note that nonacademic outdoor gatherings are now limited to 50 rather than 100 people. This refers to planned University events, such as the recent Late-Night breakfast. Student gatherings with friends are still limited to 12. Religious services are back to 50% capacity with a maximum of 100 people, and attendance at movies and performing arts events is now capped at 100 people.

The University is doing well despite the rise in cases in the state. We want to keep it that way, and the best way to make sure the rise in cases statewide does not impact our last few weeks on campus this semester is to stay on campus as much as possible and continue the great work you have been doing adhering to the Pioneer Promise.

Active Cases
Since we reported to you on Friday, we have had 26 new COVID cases—15 on campus (one each in Frassati, Oakwood, Toussaint, Pioneer Gardens, Bergoglio, Roncalli and the Ridge, two in Christian Witness and five in Seton), 12 off campus and two staff members. As always, contact tracing is taking place. We have also had 18 students recover and leave isolation since Friday’s message.

Today’s dashboard shows us at 69 active cases up 11 from the 58 we reported on Friday and with a seven-day rolling average of 7.1 up from 5.9 on Friday.

Thanksgiving Testing/Thanksgiving Travel
Random asymptomatic testing is continuing. As usual, you will be notified at the end of the week if you have been selected. Along with next week’s list of students selected for random testing will be a link to sign up for pre-Thanksgiving break testing. Testing for Thanksgiving will take place the week of November 16, so that you get your results back before you leave. We encourage you to get tested before heading home. Please keep in mind that even if you receive a negative test before traveling, you should still practice safety measures such as mask wearing and social distancing. You should also check your state’s policies for students returning from Connecticut. Other preventive measures that you can take while traveling include minimizing stops during travel.

On-Campus Plasma Donation Drive
We want to remind you of the COVID-19 plasma drive scheduled for Sunday, November 15, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Pitt Center. To participate, you will need documentation of a lab-confirmed positive COVID-19 test and will have to be symptom-free for at least 14 days. Visit the website of the Rhode Island Blood Center to fill out the necessary paperwork. Thank you to SHU athletics for organizing this important drive!

Options for Fun
Tonight, you can make sock turkeys from 7:30 to 9:30 in the University Commons auditorium. Tomorrow, there is a three-point contest and chippo tournament in the recreation center, bingo at 9:15 and 10:15 in the Edgerton Center and an outdoor movie, *Shazam*, at the guest house fountain for those in quarantine there. On Thursday, there is a bowling tourney from 5-11, DIY scaredy pots from 8 to 10 in the University Commons auditorium, and Thursday Night Football begins at 8:30 in 63’s. Friday night pizza truck is back this week for students at all quarantine locations. It is also International Education week with a variety of events planned. Check the schedule [here](#).

Be safe and healthy,
The Coronavirus Planning Team

[SHU Coronavirus Website](#) | [SHU Covid-19 Dashboard](#) | [If You Become Ill](#) | [Testing, Tracking, Treating & Tracing](#)

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