



Sacred Heart
UNIVERSITY

Sacred Heart University
DigitalCommons@SHU

University Briefings & Virtual Events

Remembering COVID-19 Community Archive

12-15-2020

Spring Update: Dear Faculty

Rupendra Paliwal
Sacred Heart University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.sacredheart.edu/covid19-universitybriefings>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [Virus Diseases Commons](#)

Paliwal, Rupendra, "Spring Update: Dear Faculty" (2020). *University Briefings & Virtual Events*. 62.
<https://digitalcommons.sacredheart.edu/covid19-universitybriefings/62>

This Email is brought to you for free and open access by the Remembering COVID-19 Community Archive at DigitalCommons@SHU. It has been accepted for inclusion in University Briefings & Virtual Events by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@SHU. For more information, please contact ferribyp@sacredheart.edu, lysobeyb@sacredheart.edu.

From: <provost@sacredheart.edu> on behalf of Provost <provost@sacredheart.edu>
Reply-To: Provost Rupendra Paliwal <Provost@sacredheart.edu>
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 8:51 AM
To: !CampusWide-Adjuncts <sacredheart--campuswide-adjuncts@regroup.com>
Subject: Spring Update

Dear faculty,

A message is forthcoming from the Coronavirus Planning Team regarding the plans for our return for the spring semester. We are planning a phased-in move-in process that will heavily emphasize mandatory testing.

Beginning the week of January 25, **residential students** will move into the halls in phases as was done in the fall. Upon arrival to campus and prior to entering residence halls, students will be tested, move into their rooms and will remain in a cautionary campus quarantine through Feb. 8. **That means the first five days of classes will be online for most students, with exceptions that will be communicated by program directors regarding certain labs, clinicals and/or studio classes.**

Please note that graduate courses will remain on their current calendars and courses in the College of Nursing will begin online January 19 and on-ground one week later. This plan is, of course, subject to change based on health guidelines from the State and the CDC, but this phased-in approach will make possible a strong testing protocol while also ensuring a strong start to the semester for our students.

Instructors should reach out to their students a week or two before classes begin and distribute syllabi and other essential information. You might also consider creating a brief assignment to keep your students focused and engaged. It is essential that we get to know our students, but those first few days should be about more than that.

As with the fall, you will need to design your course in such a way that students who are in self-isolation or quarantine have access to a comparable educational experience, either through streaming sessions or asynchronous online content. Depending on the size of your class and your room designation, you might need to divide your classes for physical-distancing measures.

You should also include this statement regarding A/V and recording, which we have developed in response to several queries from faculty: "To the extent permitted by federal and state copyright laws, the class lectures and materials provided by the professor are copyrighted. By participating in the class lectures, students consent to the video and audio recording of said lectures. As part of the requirements of the course, students are required to participate, whether in person or via electronic communications. At the professor's discretion, he or she may require students to leave their audio and video devices on during the class lectures."

Note that the decision to require students to have their cameras on is up to the instructor, in addition you might have to make accommodations for students who are experiencing anxieties or do not have access to the best technology.

CEIT and Academic Computing will be holding workshops and consultations to support your spring courses. Apart from their many scheduled sessions, please reach out to them if you have specific questions or issues about delivering content and engaging with or assessing students.

In addition to the Planning Team, which will be announcing details about the protocol, your deans might also have information about specific programs. We will also be sharing details about testing for faculty and staff in the coming weeks.

Thank you again for your dedication to the University and our students and your continued hard work, flexibility and understanding as we move into what we hope will be the final phases of the pandemic.

If I do not see you, I hope you have a restful break and a wonderful holiday season. Wishing you and your family peace, health and happiness in the upcoming year.

Rupendra



Rupendra Paliwal, Ph.D.

Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Office of the Provost & VP for Academic Affairs

5151 Park Avenue

Fairfield, CT 06825-1000

Phone: 203-371-7851

Fax: 203-365-7508

This message was sent to the following groups: !CampusWide-FTFaculty,!CampusWide-Adjuncts