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Coronavirus Update 9-9-21

The Coronavirus Planning Team

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Coronavirus Planning Contact Us coronavirus planning contactus@sacredheart.edu

Coronavirus Update 9-9-21

Dear members of the Sacred Heart University community,

Beginning this week, we have reinstituted a version of our <u>COVID dashboard</u>. Today's dashboard shows 50 active cases in the SHU community. This is concerning as we don't want to have to impose further restrictions, and we certainly don't want to revert to remote learning.

Earlier this week, Connecticut College, located in New London, responded to its 124 active cases by becoming much more restrictive. Students there were put into cautionary quarantine. Their residential students are only allowed on their floor in their residence halls or at the dining halls for quick grab-andgo meals. No visitors are allowed in their rooms. They can visit in groups of (no more than) four outside, but must wear masks and be socially distanced. Similarly, they can interact with faculty and staff while outside, masked and socially distant. Athletic practices are cancelled and athletic facilities are closed.

We are optimistic that—despite our spike in cases this week—we can keep from implementing these kinds of measures. However, it will take the cooperation of everyone. We all need to wear our masks correctly (see below) and adhere to the <u>Pioneer Promise</u>.

Masking

We continue to hear from students, faculty and staff—and see for ourselves—that some folks still are not wearing masks properly when indoors. Please refer to the graphic below for guidance. Failure to follow the mask policy will result in disciplinary measures going forward. Thank you.



What to Do If You Feel Sick or Test Positive

We have heard from some of you that you are not sure of the proper protocol should you feel sick, test positive for COVID or think you were exposed to someone who is positive. We have created a graphic for our COVID-19 Campus Status page that we think will help you. Your day should always start with a CampusClear check-in.

Testing

We will be starting to randomly test vaccinated students. If you are selected for testing, you will need to show up. In addition, if you would like to be tested, you may drop by the testing sites—8:30 to noon at the library on Monday and Tuesday or 8:30 to noon at the Edgerton Center on Wednesday and Thursday.

Make good decisions and have a great weekend, The Coronavirus Planning Team

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Please note: Given the unpredictability of the variants, we will continue to consult with and follow the guidance of the CDC, the Connecticut Department of Health and state and local health officials. We will all need to be flexible and understand that as we continue to work in the best interest of the University community, there will likely be changes and updates. We also suggest that all students have plans in place should there be a need to return home for isolation, quarantining, etc.

SHU Coronavirus Website

This message was sent to the following groups: !Campuswide-Students, !Campuswide-Employees