



June 18, 2020

Subject: President's Update for June 18, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

I hope this message finds you all well and safe. Below are some updates related to our reopening plan, and information on changes from the Department of Education concerning accreditation for colleges and universities.

Moving to Stage 2A of Reopening

Our tentative plan remains to move to Stage 2A on Monday, July 6. Preparations continue campus-wide to ensure we can welcome back a limited number of employees and students while maintaining a safe environment that complies with all state and federal mandates and public health recommendations.

I'd like to address some questions that have been raised by parents and students regarding the fall semester. Our reopening plan is flexible and responsive by design, but we are mindful of the fact that some students may be reluctant to register for fall courses due to uncertainty regarding course delivery modes. With that in mind, Academic Affairs has made the following decisions regarding Fall 2020:

- During the Fall 2020 semester, we currently anticipate remaining in either Stage 2A or Stage 2B. In both these stages, the majority of courses will be offered online-only; essential courses with an experiential learning component (such as labs, studios, and clinicals) may be offered in a face-to-face or hybrid format at the discretion of the Chief Academic Officer.
- Even if conditions improve dramatically during the fall semester and the College is able to return to normal operations (Stage 3), **any class that begins in an online-only format will remain online-only for the duration of the fall semester.**
- Conversely, if conditions worsen this fall and require the College to return to Stage 1 or Stage 0, those courses that began as hybrid or face-to-face will immediately transition to online-only.

In short, students who are registering for an online-only course for Fall 2020 should be aware that the course will remain online-only for the entire semester; students who register for hybrid or face-to-face courses must prepare for the possibility of returning to an online-only environment if conditions warrant.

My thanks to our entire campus community for your continued good work. Be well, and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline S. Jackson, PhD
Interim President