DATE  Dec 6, 2021

FROM: Jessi L. Smith, AVC-Research

TO: UCCS Faculty

The fall semester is coming to a close. This fall was unlike any other, as we bobbed and weaved to stay a step ahead of the pandemic. Many of you were back on campus in some form and we’ve all grown accustomed to hybrid days.  Our collective is simultaneously exhausted and optimistic. Know that our top priority remains your mental and physical health.

The winter campus closure is an opportunity to rest and recharge. The campus experienced the first winter campus closure back in 2019, which feels like eons ago when the world was a very different place. Back then, we were new to what it means to close campus. But now? We know well how to minimize our campus time and prepare in advance. The goal is to create conditions so all our staff can enjoy the time away (we do not want to create work for our facilities staff or campus police!). So, set up those out of office messages and embrace what makes you feel whole for the gift of one week away from campus!

Now, we know that for some of you, access to campus is critical. Please read below for what to expect if you must come to campus during the winter campus closure.

**Important Dates**

Winter Break Closure: December 24, 2021 –January 3, 2022

**What can you expect during Winter Break Closure?**

* Everyone is encouraged to stay home and take a much-deserved break.
* The Cybersecurity, Hybl Center, and Lane Center buildings will remain open due to existing business partnerships.
* All other campus buildings will be locked.
* The Kramer Family Library will be closed.
* Temperatures will be set at 62 degrees. If you have research or an archive that requires a different temperature, please contact Kent Marsh at [kmarsh2@uccs.edu](mailto:kmarsh2@uccs.edu)
* Power will remain on, though we encourage people to reduce energy consumption where possible.
* Most sidewalks and parking lots will not be plowed.
* If your lab or studio contains chemical or physical hazards be sure that they are secured and/or disabled.  For specific questions or assistance, please email Cynthia Norton [cnorton@uccs.edu](mailto:cnorton@uccs.edu).

**Social distance does not mean disconnected**

The Office of Research is here to support you, offer advice, research the answer to your questions, and do our best to keep some resemblance of business as usual during this public health crisis. Stay connected via our:

* UCCS Research Listserv
* UCCS\_OOR Instagram page
* Email [OOR@uccs.edu](mailto:OOR@uccs.edu)
* Office of Research Website: <https://research.uccs.edu/>

**Informational Resources:**

* [Campus information on COVID-19](https://covid19.uccs.edu/)
* [UCCS status board](https://statusboard.uccs.edu/)
* [UCCS Resources for Mental Health and Wellbeing](http://view.communications.cu.edu/?qs=f90d21b00fd00848fd26ad5fa8cf0673a84a1e99f8de12aca7a1dab667e5d4746955c2bc3285ae9d658994819addf4daa360da772387731ca4b9ff8f8e7994dc4c3bb5400c0fa4132fea067338740945)
* [CU System information on COVID-19](https://www.cu.edu/coronavirus)
* [State of Colorado information on COVID-19](https://covid19.colorado.gov/)
* [COVID-19 Impacts on Researchers](https://research.uccs.edu/academic-impacts-covid-19)