DATE: May 13, 2020

FROM: Jessi L. Smith, AVC-Research

TO: UCCS Faculty

Goodbye to Spring 2020! The end of this very challenging semester is in sight.  You are to be commended for working so hard to create meaningful educational experiences for your students and maintaining some thread of your research agenda. We know that summer is when you and your students make significant progress on your research and creative works. As such, we know that you are all anxiously waiting for news that will help you map out our summer activities. Below are some key updates:

**What you need to know for right now:**

1. Researchers who are not already designated as critical will continue remote work until instructed otherwise. There is no immediate change in access to campus. If you are currently approved for campus access, you still have the approval.
2. The Summer Access Logistics team submitted a recommendation to Campus Leadership. Informed by the Governor’s orders, the Colorado Department of Higher Education, and the El Paso County Health Department, the proposed plan is to open campus to those who must access campus for their teaching or research needs on **June 1**. (We had hoped for an earlier date, of May 18, but that is not feasible).

**Starting on June 1:**

1. There will not be a list of faculty and students approved for campus access; rather if you are performing mission critical tasks (such as research) you can come to campus.
2. Work remotely when at all possible.
3. Graduate students may have access when absolutely necessary.
4. Undergraduate research students will be allowed on a case-by-case basis; they will require permission from your Dean.
5. Staff will continue to work remotely, unless they are on the Essential and Critical Access list maintained by HR.
6. There will be a new *required* Return-to-Campus Skillsoft training that you must take *before* coming to campus. Details on the training are forthcoming.
7. Everyone on campus will be *required* to bring and wear a face covering.
8. Before coming to campus each day, you will be encouraged to take an anonymous online self-assessment health check.
9. There will be new building/room capacity limits, including in your lab and studio spaces. Your Deans will be given a list of recommended occupancy capacity so they can manage the spaces to help assure physical distancing guidelines are realistic.
10. Our IRB leadership will disseminate guidelines that address human subject research.

**What to start planning now:**

Consider drafting your plans for addressing social distancing, hygiene, and a schedule for rotating personnel through your research or studio space starting on June 1. Please also consider ways to reduce your plug-load to reduce utility costs as much as possible. And, consider what you can put off this summer; it is OK to give yourself permission to be less productive in these difficult times.

**Informational Resources:**

* [Campus information on COVID19](https://covid19.uccs.edu/)
* [Kraemer Family Library information on COVID19](https://www.uccs.edu/library/covid-19)
* [CU System information on COVID19](https://www.cu.edu/coronavirus)
* [State of Colorado information on COVID19](https://covid19.colorado.gov/)

An archive of our communication letters are found [on our website](https://research.uccs.edu/covid-19-updates).