

MEMO

To: SJU Community

From: Peter Meehan, President and Vice Chancellor
Cristina Vanin, Interim Vice President Academic and Dean
Mike Gourlay, Executive Director, Finance and Administration

Date: April 1, 2021

Subject: April Update – Campus Response Team

April and spring are here! It seems unbelievable that we are moving into year two of the pandemic and of remote learning and working. Thank you for your ongoing efforts to deliver on our mission, despite these complex times. We appreciate your patience as we continue to adjust to changes that occur at each stage of the pandemic.

With today's announcement that Waterloo Region will be moving into an Ontario-wide lockdown starting on Saturday, April 3, we will continue to follow and monitor the protocols we currently have in place. We will provide further communication if there are any changes to the campus protocols that we are currently following.

The following is an update about the Campus Response Team (CRT) and preparations for our return to campus. While more specific information is not yet available to share about the fall 2021 term, we continue to remain active working on the following:

Return to Campus Planning and Priorities

- Decisions regarding scheduling for the return to campus continue to be guided by the Government of Ontario, Public Health, and the University of Waterloo.
- There have been no updates further to the March 30th COVID-19 announcement about the outbreak in UWaterloo Residences that did not impact our campus. SJU has not been notified by Public Health of any active COVID-19 cases on our campus. Students in residence were advised to continue to follow campus safety rules.
- Compliance assessments continue to take place to ensure that our campus remains safe for our students in residence, and those people working in essential services.
- Our Vice President Academic and Dean and Associate Dean continue to monitor news from UWaterloo daily to help guide plans for fall term.
- The Senior Administration Team (SAT) continue their conversations about the prioritization of services returning to campus and the management of employee interest in blended work environments (on site/remote).
- Student Affairs is preparing for the residence move-out period as the exam period approaches April 17-26th. The residence will be closed for the spring term.
- Student Affairs is preparing for Student Leadership role turnover.
- Our IT Team continues to work on upgrading our WiFi service on campus.
- Capacity options for the fall term are being considered to safeguard and serve students dependent upon a variety of pandemic scenarios.
- Access to SJU campus buildings remains restricted and will continue to be provided on an individual request basis. Please direct requests as follows:

STAFF

Any access to buildings or offices requires authorization from your direct supervisor, Mike Gourlay, Executive Director, Finance and Administration, and Tom Slaby, Director, Facilities. Please indicate to Mike if you are looking for more regular access to campus while we are in RED ZONE status.

ACADEMIC STAFF AND RESEARCHERS

Academic Staff and Researchers: Any access to buildings or offices will need the authorization of Cristina Vanin, Interim VP Academic and Dean. Please indicate to Cristina if you are looking for more regular campus access while we are in RED ZONE status.

Events

- The Graduation Committee leads distributed a message to our 2020 Graduates cancelling the planned May 1, 2021 celebration event on campus. A message about the 2021 Graduation cancellation will be sent to our 2021 Graduates once they are identified. A 2020 and 2021 celebration weekend is being planned for both groups of graduates, to take place in late fall 2021 or spring 2022.
- The Lectures in Catholic Experience promoted the series transfer to an online model for “Hope in the Time of COVID!”: four lectures launched in March that will continue in April, May, and June.
- The Students’ Union is planning an online version of the Green and Gold Gala for students, taking place on May 7th.

Month-at-a-glance timelines

- Tuesday CRT meetings continue to occur on a weekly basis.
- April 2 – Good Friday – University closed.
- April 14 – Last day of classes.
- April 17-26 – Final Examination period.
- April 23, 7:30 p.m. – Lectures in Catholic Experience presents its second online lecture in the “Hope in the Time of COVID!” series, featuring Peter Meehan, [Progressive or Conservative? Archbishop Pocock and the Renewal of the Church in Canada](#).
- April 30 – Deadline to take vacation allocations for the 2020-2021 academic year. Please contact your supervisor to discuss further.

Coming in May

- May 7 – Students’ Union Green and Gold Gala Online
- May 14 – SJU Assembly

Human Resource tools available to support your remote work and transition back to campus

- Sign up for one of the [UWaterloo staff conference sessions](#), including Change & Resilience (April 6, 11 a.m.); “Yin Yoga – Relax Restore Renew” (April 6 and 8, 1:30 p.m.); Optimizing Your Home Office (April 7, 1:30 p.m.); Building our Resilience: How to Manage the “Unmanageable” (April 7, 1:30 p.m.); and Leveraging Adaptive Technology in the Workplace (April 8, 1:30 p.m.).
- SJU Community Spirit Boosters drop-ins this month include five minute Fit Breaks every Wednesday at 12 Noon, guided by Melissa Carvalhal; and a Wellness During the Pandemic and What Lies Ahead (April 21, 12:05 p.m.) drop in, guided by Renate Donovan, PhD (Candidate), MAL, Teaching Development Associate, UWaterloo Faculty of Engineering; and SJU’s Wellness Coordinator, Lindsay Thompson.

Responses to your RT submissions

- There have been no employee RT submissions to either the “CRT Feedback” or “Campus Compliance Concern” options to date. We look forward to responding to your enquiries as they are received.