



# ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

**To:** SJU Community  
**From:** Peter Meehan, President and Vice-Chancellor  
**Date:** September 24, 2020  
**Subject:** SJU Return to Campus Update

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To support our continued efforts to keep you informed about our return to campus planning, the following is an update on the status of our phased-in approach to the re-opening of our campus.

Our priority continues to be the health and safety of all members of our community. We actively reference advice and best practices from a variety of resources, including the Ontario Government, Community Public Health, the University of Waterloo, Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA) and PHAC to formulate our own guidelines for operating safely on campus.

Recently there has been an increase in COVID-19 cases in Ontario and the provincial government has lowered limits on gathering sizes. This decision has an impact on our original return to campus planning. We must adjust our plans accordingly.

We will not be moving forward with the next phase of our plans to allow increased access to our campus at this time. We will also continue to deliver courses and services remotely through the winter 2021 term.

Our Return to Campus team will continue to monitor sanitation protocol compliance and for the staff working in our buildings as well as for our residence students. This data will inform the future phases of our return-to-campus plan. We will also reach out to gather more information about the specific needs of those individual employees who have expressed a desire to work in their campus offices. We recognize that the recent increase in COVID-19 cases, may impact your original desire to be on campus.

As we continue to work through the many daily changes associated with this pandemic, and for the foreseeable future, employees will continue to have restricted access to SJU campus buildings. Restrictions remain in place for which spaces are currently accessible to those working on campus.

- Staff: Only essential services staff (currently, Facilities & Residence staff) have been approved to work on campus. Any access to buildings or offices requires authorization from your direct supervisor, Mike Gourlay, Executive Director, Finance and Administration, and Tom Slaby, Director, Facilities.
- Academic Staff and Researchers: Any access to buildings or offices will need the authorization of Dr. Cristina Vanin, Interim VP Academic and Dean.

- Research Labs - SJU has recently allowed for limited activity in the research labs located on campus. Access within these spaces is controlled and authorized by Cristina Vanin, Interim Vice President Academic and Dean.

St. Jerome's University will continue to prioritize the safety and well-being of our entire community in all of its return to campus planning. Thank you for your continued support of our Return to Campus team, whose efforts I commend in the challenging situation we continue to face.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to our Return to Campus leaders - Mike Gourlay ([mike.gourlay@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mike.gourlay@uwaterloo.ca)) or Cristina Vanin ([cristina.vanin@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:cristina.vanin@uwaterloo.ca)) - if you have any questions or concerns. Our [SJU COVID-19 information webpage](#) will be updated to ensure that you have access to the latest information on our return to campus planning.