COVID-19 Committee on Reactivating in-person Campus Activities for Fall 2020

Draft: April 27, 2020

Charge: Leverage campus-wide expertise to provide recommendations on best-practices for conducting a public health informed in-person Fall semester. Deliverables should seek to establish or bolster the campus's public health framework, infrastructure, and practices across all aspects of the student experience, in order to mitigate the risk of an in-person Fall semester for all members of the UM community. Recommendations from this group will be shared with the COVID-19 Leadership Group, led by Cynthia Wilbanks, for further deliberation, planning, and implementation.
The committee's charge is further delineated by the following set of questions posed by President Schlissel:

- What sort of public health informed practices might we put into effect to allow us to get back to residential education?
- How might we modify the delivery of classes and the housing and feeding of our students so as to minimize risk of disease transmission?
- Presuming we are able to ramp up our virus and antibody testing capabilities, how might we deploy these assays supported by the appropriate technologies to make the campus safer and diminish disease transmission?
- What role can syndrome surveillance play in a return to operations framework?
- How might we set up a contact tracking and quarantine platform?

Committee Membership:

- DuBois Bowman (Chair; Dean, School of Public Health)
- Angela Beck (Assistant Professor of Health Behavior and Health Education and Director of a Public Health Training Center for the state of Michigan)
- Rob Ernst (Executive Director of UHS)
- Sharon Kardia (Professor of Epidemiology and Associate Dean for Public Health Education)
- Sachin Kheterpal (co-lead of Precision Health initiative; Prof. of Anesthesiology; IT entrepreneur)
- Steve Kunkel (Pathology Prof; Immunologist; EVD Research Michigan Medicine)
- Preeti Malani (Chief Health Officer)
- Emily Martin (Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Co-director of the CDC-funded influenza vaccine effectiveness surveillance efforts for the state of Michigan)
- Laura Power (Preventive Medicine and Infectious Disease Physician)
- Laraine Washer (ID clinician and head of Infection Control for Michigan Medicine)
- Riccardo Valdez, (Professor and Director of Clinical Pathology)

Guiding Principles: The public health informed practices designed to reactivate in-person activities on the UM campus are established under the following principles:

- Prioritize the health and safety of all members of the University of Michigan community with special consideration and thought toward more vulnerable sub-populations
- Maintain continuity of high-quality educational experience for students
- Use real-time epidemiological data to inform decision making
- A robust communication strategy will be required up front and ongoing
- Attend to our core position of equity/inclusion and access
- Learn from others' experiences (e.g., closed society model in China peer domestic institutions)
- Must be prepared to plan, monitor and pivot as needed due to the ever-changing nature of the pandemic

Assumptions:

- COVID-19 will not be eradicated by the Fall and therefore will need to be managed through testing and stacked public health practices
    - In absence of an effective vaccine and/or medication to treat COVID-19, we must continue to proactively monitor and manage transmission and outbreaks
- Recommendations assume (as charged) that the Fall semester will be conducted in-person (at least partially)
- This committee will focus on the public health framework, infrastructure, and practices that need to be represented across campus.
- This committee's work assumes the existence of and an adequate supply of cutting-edge testing technology and personal protective equipment.
- Proceed with brainstorming in an unconstrained manner but keep in mind that feasibility of solutions/recommendations will need to be considered.
- New codes of conduct will need to be developed or existing codes modified to redefine the social contract during the pandemic.
- The University will work in partnership with the health department(s).
- Reactivating in-person campus activities will be initiated only when there is *manageable* risk based on public health guidance regarding the stage of the pandemic, on indicators of sufficient healthcare capacity, and on the ready availability of public health testing (virus and antibody), contact-tracing, and other infrastructure.

Major Work Areas Targeted:

1. Testing
2. Housing / Living Arrangements
3. Containment Strategy: Contact Tracing and Quarantine System
4. Education
5. Dining
6. Social Events (Sports, Concerts, Orientation, Debate, Graduation)
7. Monitoring / Surveillance

Related Campus Efforts and Select Partners:

1. Research reactivation planning - led by UM VP for Research Rebecca Cunningham
2. Education committees- Provost's Office
3. Committee on Ethical and Privacy Issues - led by Gil Omen
4. UM Environmental Health and Safety
5. University Health Service
6. Facilities and Operations
7. Student Life