

April 24, 2020

Dear Iowa State community,

As we enter the final weeks of the spring semester, our thoughts start to turn to fall and the upcoming academic year.

I want to share with you the [statement](#) made by Board of Regents President Michael Richards during the April 1 board meeting:

“We are planning on a full, normal operation for our universities for the fall 2020 semester. This includes in-person classes, reopening of residence halls, food service and other campus services. As we move forward together, we need to follow the guidance we are given from our national and state leaders. We will continue to follow recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Iowa Department of Public Health as we consider how our regent institutions will operate in this trying time. Together we will weather this storm and come out stronger on the other side.”

Here at Iowa State University, we will consider all options that follow this directive and prioritize the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff. We will be engaging representatives from divisions and units across campus in our fall planning effort, and will provide updates as plans develop.

Preparing for fall will require new and creative approaches to how we support our mission and campus operations, especially in considering the best alternatives available if our planning efforts are impacted by external factors beyond our control. I am confident that working together, with an innovation mindset, we will find a way forward that upholds Iowa State’s tradition of excellence.

The best ideas manifest when we are our best selves. That is why it’s so important that everyone take time for self-care, rest, and renewal. Please take advantage of the university resources and programs that support all aspects of wellness – [ISU WellBeing](#) and [Keep Community. Stay Informed. Be Well.](#) [ISU Extension and Outreach](#) also offers a number of resources and tools to help navigate the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis, including financial questions, food access, caregiving, and parenting.

Iowa State’s best asset is you – our faculty, staff, and students. Thank you for taking care of yourself and each other so that we can all bring our best selves to work and class each day – no matter where we are on campus, in Iowa, or around the world.

Sincerely,

Wendy Wintersteen
President

P.S., Iowa State innovation is making a difference during the crisis. Check out our new [COVID-19 Innovation at Work website](#) side-by-side with our full set of [COVID-19 updates and resources](#).

P.P.S, Are you missing the beauty of the Iowa State campus? Take a [virtual walk around the sculptures of central campus](#) with University Museums.