

April 28, 2020

Dear Iowa State Faculty and Staff:

In the past six weeks, the Iowa State University community has responded to the COVID-19 crisis with creativity, innovation, and flexibility. I feel very proud of our faculty and staff, who quickly translated more than 6,000 courses to virtual instruction. Students have moved home and maintained their education and engagement with faculty, advisors, and staff. Research programs have made necessary adjustments to continue or temporarily suspend activity. Essential services have continued on campus through necessary operational staff. Extension and Outreach faculty and staff have responded to community needs statewide.

It is now time to look ahead and begin planning for the future.

I have named an Executive Committee for Fall Planning, which is tasked with creating plans for how we can safely reinstate our teaching and research programs on campus this fall. This Executive Committee will focus on classroom teaching, academic support, residence halls and dining, health and safety, and research support.

The issues are complex. This will require our entire community to rise to yet another level in our commitment to our mission and each other. By asking the critical questions, conducting the proper analysis, and using our innovation, skills, and creativity, Iowa State can begin to find the path forward and begin preparations for the start of a new school year.

Our Guiding Principles for this planning [are outlined here](#). This Executive Committee will work closely with our Emergency Operations Center's Working Groups. These Working Groups include representatives from the Faculty Senate, P&S Council, Student Government and the Graduate and Professional Student Senate. A listing of these Working Groups and members [is shown here](#).

The Executive Committee will be chaired by **John Lawrence**, Vice President for Extension and Outreach. Members of the committee include:

- **Erin Baldwin**, Assistant Vice President for Student Health and Wellness and Director of Thielen Student Health Center
- **Kristen Constant**, Interim Vice President and Chief Information Officer
- **Kristi Darr**, Interim Vice President for University Human Resources
- **Sam Easterling**, Melsa Dean, College of Engineering

- **Pete Englin**, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Residence
- **Surya Mallapragada**, Associate Vice President for Research and Distinguished Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering
- **Michael Newton**, Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Chief of Police
- **Mike Norton**, University Counsel
- **Clayton Oliver**, Emergency Manager, Environmental Health and Safety
- **Jim Roth**, Covault Distinguished Professor of Veterinary Medicine and Director, Center for Food Security and Public Health
- **Rob Schweers**, Director of Communications, Office of the Senior Vice President Provost
- **Reg Stewart**, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion
- **Bonnie Whalen**, Associate Vice President for Institutional Financial Strategy

I appreciate the support of our faculty and staff as we begin this effort to create a plan for the start of the academic year. If you have ideas or questions regarding this process, please email fall20plans@iastate.edu.

Please also see additional information below regarding Governor Reynolds' latest announcement and a second virtual Town Hall for ISU faculty and staff.

Sincerely,

Wendy Wintersteen
President

Governor's announcement

Governor Reynolds announced yesterday that some businesses in 77 Iowa counties, including Story County, may consider resuming limited operations on Friday, May 1. This pertains to restaurants, fitness centers, retail stores, and libraries. **At this time, we are not making any changes to how we are operating the university**; however, we are considering next steps and will share more information soon.

Virtual Town Hall #2

Plan to join me and other senior leaders at 2 p.m., Monday, May 4, for the second virtual Town Hall meeting with faculty and staff. The one-hour Town Hall will be held via Webex events. [Click here](#) to join or copy and paste the URL into your web browser:

<https://iastate.webex.com/iastate/onstage/g.php?MTID=e5923252035a4bb738a2518c9ed98a043>

Note: the event password should auto-populate, and you will need to register with your name and email address.