Fall Semester 2020: Reopening During a Pandemic
Communications

- 37 town halls with faculty, staff, students, parents, local community
- Numerous emails to faculty, faculty and staff, students
- Individual and community statements, and various newspaper and TV interviews
- 2 Executive Committee meetings; special full BoT meeting
- All Chairs; Deans updated weekly
- School Board (tonight); Tompkins Cty Supervisor; Director Tomplins Cty Health
Decision making based on data and science, where the health of our community—faculty, staff, students, and local residents—is the priority.

Makes use of local expertise to develop and continually update an epidemiological model based on factors specific to Cornell.

Key Finding: A residential semester is safer than a wholly online one, because thousands of students will live in Ithaca either way, and with a residential semester, we can require ongoing virus surveillance testing and better enforce a behavioral compact.

A robust surveillance testing program, followed up with tracing and quarantine of contacts, is essential. This is what differentiates our approach from that of other schools that have reversed course.

But there is uncertainty, and we are committed to doing what is best from a health standpoint. If conditions change and we believe it is safer to shut down, we will do so, no matter how disruptive that may be.
Updates on the Reopening Plan

- Testing
- Isolation and Quarantine
- Facilities
- Curriculum
- Student Life and Behavioral Compact
- Public Health Campaign
- Decision Making: Dashboard, Alert Levels and Shut Down
- Key Risks
Virus Testing Program

- Three components: Arrival Testing, Testing for Cause, Surveillance Testing
- Arrival testing: NP swabs analyzed at Cayuga Medical Center
- Testing for Cause: students swabbed at Cornell Health and samples sent to Cayuga Medical Center; faculty/staff go to Mall (CHC)
  - 24 hour turn around
- Have been testing off-campus students, as well as students from quarantine-list states who received exemptions to live in dorms
- Main arrival starts 8/23. All students are tested and quarantined in a dorm (first day) or a hotel room until result is know; negatives then enter their on-campus residence
### Arrival Testing Statistics to Date

Through 8/23/2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP</th>
<th># Tested</th>
<th># Positives</th>
<th>% Positive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>4752</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad/Prof</td>
<td>5316</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fac/Staff/Other</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unclassified</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>12208</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0.07%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Surveillance Testing

- Surveillance testing being done in-house:
  - New laboratory built and completed at Veterinary College Diagnostic Laboratory – CCTL (Cornell Corona virus Testing Lab).
  - New capability built to test >50,000 persons per week (pooling), with 24-hour turn-around
  - Will use Anterior Nares Samples: extensive validation
  - Undergraduates tested twice/week; grad/prof/faculty/staff once/week or every other week, depending on student contact

- Surveillance testing began this week
  - ~1000 tests to date
  - Several thousand scheduled for next week
  - Full scale initiates September 2
Quarantine and Isolation Space

Have secured rooms at local hotels, and can also use dedicated dorm space (hallways, floors, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>“Nominal” Estimated Need</th>
<th>“High” Estimated Need</th>
<th>Rooms Available</th>
<th>Rooms Available in Ithaca</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>During Move In</td>
<td>566</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through the Semester</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>1305</td>
<td>1000 (*)</td>
<td>746 (*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(*) plus potentially</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>more dorm space</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At or beyond “High” Estimated Need we would likely shut down.
## Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Original Target</th>
<th>Revised Target</th>
<th>Current Estimate</th>
<th>% of Original</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undergraduates Total</strong></td>
<td>15,150</td>
<td>14,400</td>
<td>13,900 to 14,600</td>
<td>92% to 96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Year Undergraduates</strong></td>
<td>3,250</td>
<td>3,100 to 3,200</td>
<td>95% to 99%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Continuing Undergraduates</strong></td>
<td>11,900</td>
<td>10,800 to 11,400</td>
<td>91% to 96%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grad &amp; Professional</strong></td>
<td>8,600</td>
<td>6,900</td>
<td>8,000 to 8,300</td>
<td>93% to 96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Ithaca</strong></td>
<td>23,750</td>
<td>21,300</td>
<td>21,900 to 22,910</td>
<td>92% to 96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cornell Tech</strong></td>
<td>400</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>24,500</td>
<td>21,600</td>
<td>22,280 to 23,290</td>
<td>91% to 96%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Extensive Facilities Modification Plan

- Implementation began late spring, in preparation for research reopening
- Includes ventilation, cleaning, transportation, signage, classroom reconfiguration, tents, testing stations, etc.
- WIFI access in dorms upgraded
# Facilities Reactivation Team Update
## Week of August 17, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TCAT Coordination</td>
<td>Coordinate with TCAT to modify routes to adjust to new campus movement.</td>
<td>On-going – Fall service</td>
<td>On-going – Fall service to begin 8/30 – starting A lot shuttle 4:40 departure on 8/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HVAC Filter Upgrades</td>
<td>Perform upgrades of HVAC filters -- replace existing filters with High Efficiency MERV-13 filters.</td>
<td>Completion TBD;</td>
<td>Completion TBD; encountering supply delays. Do not anticipate completion before the start of classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Space Ventilation</td>
<td>Design and install temporary classroom ventilation solutions to provide mechanical ventilation to rooms that have only natural ventilation</td>
<td>Work in progress; fans and accessories to be delivered week of 8/17; 50 high priority classrooms identified but subject to priority changes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Cleaning</td>
<td>Develop and implement increased cleaning frequency standard for classrooms and lecture halls. Coordinate with Registrar and Units to ensure all classrooms are identified and scheduled for cleaning.</td>
<td>Identified rooms have been scheduled for cleaning. Working with Registrar to adjust for room adds/changes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Seating Plan Guidelines</td>
<td>Develop specific guidelines for physical distancing and verify room capacities. Coordinate with Registrar for class scheduling. Review and assess as plans are completed and uploaded to 25Live</td>
<td>Guidelines established and room capacities determined</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tent Requests</td>
<td>Identify and consolidate tent requirements. Coordinate permitting and procurement.</td>
<td>Currently have 13 tents needing permits between dining, academic, move-in weekend. There are another 9 tents requested that do not need permits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Storeroom PPE</td>
<td>Centralize ordering and stocking of difficult to source PPE. Issue to units via FCS R5 processes. Transition to routine procurement processes as items become readily available through vendors.</td>
<td>Ample supply of disposal masks, lab gowns, two-week supply of hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fall 2020 Campus Reactivation

14 Tent locations

- **West Campus:**
  4 Program House
  Dining facilities

- **Central Campus:**
  Arts Quad - 1 lg tent,
  ILR School - 2 tents,
  Law School - 3 tents

- **North Campus:**
  Court-Kay-Bauer Courtyard - 2 tents

- **South Campus:**
  CU Orchard - 1 tent,
  Dilmun Hill -1 tent
Fall 2020 Campus Reactivation

5 COVID Test Sites

- Fischell Band Center
- Willard Straight Hall
- King-Shaw Hall
- Livestock Pavilion
- Robert Purcell Community Ctr (RPCC)
Curriculum

• **Instruction modes**
  o In-person and Hybrid (~ 36% of courses)
  o Some on rotational attendance model
  o Online—synchronous and asynchronous

• **Academic support and continuity**
  o System in place for notifying instructors if one of their students has been placed in quarantine or isolation so that students can receive the support that they need to maintain academic progress

• **Enrollment**
  o Delayed due to analysis/modification of classrooms and enrollment field changes to inform students of teaching modality
  o On track for enrollment in classes next week
  o Serial enrollment to ensure availability of in-person classes to first- and second-year students.
CONSERVATIVE UNIVERSITY
FOUNDED A.D. 1865

Student Life

CORNELL Q-WEEK
VIRTUAL EVENTS WHILE YOU QUARANTINE!

WEEK 1: AUGUST 16-22
WEEK 2: AUGUST 23-29

CLASSCOUNCIL.CORNELL.EDU/Q-WEEK

SUN 8/16
6PM Animal Crossing Fireworks Show
Campus Activities

MON 8/17
6PM Zumba
Nicole, Cornell Fitness Centers

TUE 8/18
11AM Touchdown’s Travels
Instagram Live & cu Campus Activities
12PM Yoga
Molly, Cornell Fitness Centers
2PM Yoga & Meditation
Cornell Minds Matter
7:06PM Finding Your Community
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

WED 8/19
11AM Touchdown’s Travels
Instagram Live & cu Campus Activities
12PM Yoga
Molly, Cornell Fitness Centers
2PM Yoga & Meditation
Cornell Minds Matter
7PM Virtual Playlist Bingo
Class Councils, CUBP, CU Tonight
8PM Zumba
Isabella, Cornell Fitness Centers

THU 8/20
11AM Panel: Research 101
Cornell Undergraduate Research Board
3PM Taylor Swift Listening Party
Slope Day Programming Board
6PM Virtual Survey Game Show
Class Councils, CUBP, CU Tonight
7PM Urbankick & HIIT
Krista, Cornell Fitness Centers
7:06PM Keeping Up With Hobbies
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

FRI 8/21
1PM DIY Craft Class
Campus Activities
2PM Public Speaking Workshop
Speech & Debate Society
3PM Yoga
Linda, Cornell Fitness Centers
3PM Navigating Voter Registration
Cornell Votes & Public Service Center
4PM Cornell Escape Room
Campus Activities, Class Councils, CU Tonight

SAT 8/22
6PM HIIT Live, Cornell Fitness Centers

MON 8/24
2PM Quara-Team Challenge
Campus Activities, Campus Events
4PM Urbankick & HIIT
Linda, Cornell Fitness Centers
4PM Workshop: Enneagrams
Dean of Students Office
7PM First-Year Fest
Cornell Hillel

TUE 8/25
10AM Gore & More
Carolyn, Cornell Fitness Centers
11AM Touchdown’s Travels
Instagram Live & cu Campus Activities
2PM Yoga
Cornell Minds Matter & EARH
4PM Inclusive Language Workshop
Dean of Students Office
5PM New Students: Campus Groups
Campus Activities

WED 8/26
1PM DIY Craft Class
Campus Activities
2PM Navigating Your First Year
Cornell Asian Pacific Student Union
3PM Navigating Voter Registration
Cornell Votes & Public Service Center
6PM Trivia Night
Society for India

THU 8/27
1PM Campus Groups for Student Orgs
Campus Activities
3PM Phoebe Bridgers Listening Party
Slope Day Programming Board
7PM Cellphone Smackdown Game Show
Class Council, CUBP, CU Tonight
7PM Cornell Trivia Night
Corey Earle, CUBP

FRI 8/28
3PM Chloe x Halle Listening Party
Slope Day Programming Board
7PM Navigating Absentee Ballots
Cornell Votes & Public Service Center
7PM Cornell Trivia Night
Corey Earle, CUBP

ONGOING
Discord: Community @ Cornell
tinyurl.com/CornellDiscord, Class Councils
Virtual Events Outside of Cornell
tinyurl.com/CUVirtual, Campus Activities
Pre-recorded Fitness Classes
Schedule on CampusGroups
@cu_campusactivities
Campus Activities Instagram
activities@cornell.edu
Campus Activities email
@cornellstudentlife
Student & Campus Life Instagram

All events take place virtually.
Please maintain physical distancing when participating.
All times are in EST (Cornell time).

Organized by the Campus Activities office.
A division of Student & Campus Life.
Behavioral Compact

• All students must complete training on Covid-19 transmission and sign the Cornell Student Behavioral Compact
  o Includes commitment to universal mask wearing, social distancing, prohibition of large groups, etc.
  o Includes acknowledgement that we may need to shut down

• No Greek life social events permitted this fall
• Students holding leases on off-campus apartments are responsible for misconduct (e.g. parties) at their apartments
• ”severe, pervasive, and/or repeated violations...” may lead to suspension
• > 100 behavioral compact monitors, including many coaches
• > 300 student public health ambassadors

Status of RA Discussions
Public Health Campaign

RESPECT YOUR FRIENDS. WEAR A MASK.

LIVE Smarter

covid.cornell.edu/smarter
Dashboard

We will evaluate data on a daily basis

- Emergence of Infection
- Emergence of disease and local health capacity
- Ability to maintain surveillance testing
- Quarantine and isolation capacity

https://covid.cornell.edu/testing/dashboard
Alert Levels

- Despite all of our extensive planning, circumstances could require us to escalate our restrictions on activity, even to the point of shut down.

- We are committed to taking the appropriate steps to protect public health, even if they are highly disruptive.

- If the evidence is that shutting down has become the best way to protect community health, we will do that.

- Factors that impact alert level:
  - Number of Cornell infections over the past 7 days (after arrival period)
  - Availability of quarantine/isolation space
  - Capacity of local health care system
  - Availability of supplies for continued surveillance testing

- Team meets every evening to review the data; when any single factor exceeds pre-defined levels, escalation to the next alert level must be considered. (Example: 250 infections over the past 7 days triggers assessment of escalation to red/shut down.)
Key Risks

- Graduate student / RA concerns
- Equity
- Misconception that perfect execution is required
- Local off-campus students from other universities
- Community anxiety
- Everyone’s anxiety
Shoutout

Team Leads: Gary Koretzky, Ryan Lombardi, Lisa Nishii, Rick Burgess, Joel Malina, Mary Opperman, Emmanuel Giannellis, Wendy Wolford

Project Leads and Others with Key Responsibilities: Joanne DeStefano, Kelly Cunningham, Charlie Kruzansky, Melissa Shaffmaster, Gary Stewart, Shane Trost, Bridgette Brady, Spring Buck, Erik Eshelman, Peggy Matta, Bob Pils, Margaret Carney, Juliet Parsons, Allan Bishop, Linda Croll Howell, Betsy Shrier, Peter Frazier, Kevin Hallock, Kristin Hopkins, Kim Potter, Isaac Weisfuse, Gustavo Flores-Macias, Christine Potter, Cindy Tarter, Laura Taylor, Mark Hurwitz, Jenny Loeffelman, Sharon McMullen, Vijay Pendakur, Pat Wynn, David Shmoys, Rhonda Kitch, Dave Lifka, Julia Thom-Levy, Miranda Swanson, Carol Grumbach, Lorin Warnick, Madelyn Wessel, Diego Diel, Francois Elvinger, Wayne Davenport, Jeff Pleiss, Ann Jones, Tim Blair, Jason Cole, Sandy Dhimitri, Ashley Fazio, Christine Stallmann, Frank Cantone, Wendy Tarlow, Marin Clarkberg, Mark Hurwitz

+ many more…