An Update on Plans for LSUS Fall Reopening

Dear Students,

In our ongoing effort to keep you informed of plans for reopening this fall, I am connecting you to the LSUS Roadmap to Reopening. This document offers direction to the University community regarding our guiding principles, campus-wide safety measures, and each of our responsibilities as members of the campus community. Because the status of the pandemic continues to change, this plan will also evolve. Whatever the specifics of the plan, our efforts will be most effective when we all adhere to the guidelines and all work together in a collaborative effort. I encourage you to review the document, but I’ve also highlighted several important items below.

**Course offerings:** Some of you have reached out to me inquiring about the structure of our course offerings. We have continued to restructure course offerings to include on-campus, 100-percent online classes, and a combination of both formats (HyFlex). On-campus classes have been adjusted to ensure small class sizes in larger classroom spaces. This will facilitate physical distancing for faculty and students. The University plans to record all face-to-face classes so that lectures can be made available to students who are enrolled in these classes but are in quarantine or otherwise have a permitted reason that prevents them from attending classes. These recordings will be made available in Moodle. The HyFlex option is a hybrid between on-campus and remote. Students will rotate between meeting in a classroom and via video conference. For example, in a Tuesday/Thursday class, part of the students will be asked to attend face to face on Tuesday while participating remotely on Thursday. In-class seating arrangements will be set and attendance monitored to assist in contact tracing. Courses that are 100 percent online will continue as normal with students having the ability to login at their convenience and complete coursework and discussions online. Faculty will continue to be available to you during office hours that may be held face to face, via video conference or telephone.

**Wellness Checkpoints:** I also want to provide you more details on the campus Wellness checkpoints. These checkpoints are required of all Students, Faculty, and Staff when they arrive on campus each day. Three of the Checkpoints will be Drive-thru (BE Parking Lot, TC Parking Lot, Cut-thru Road in front of HPE) and two of them will be Walk-up (UC First Floor, Pilots Pointe). At the Wellness Checkpoint, a forehead temperature scan will be administered, and if you exhibit no COVID-19 symptoms, you will be given a sticker (with date of check) that you will be required to wear indicating you are symptom-free. Students who do not have this sticker will not be permitted to enter their classes or other indoor spaces on campus. Non-compliance with this policy may result in the student being referred for potential violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

**Contact Tracing:** All LSUS Students, Faculty and Staff will be expected to participate in an LSU Contact Tracing Program. This required program automates a tracing protocol and can be accessed via text or a web-based platform. The protocol requires Students, Faculty, and Staff to complete a return to campus form as well as a daily symptom checker. The system also includes a contact tracing online form. If
someone indicates they have tested positive or have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, they will be given testing directives. Stay tuned for more details on how to access the LSU Contact Tracing Program.

Barnes & Noble at LSUS: Our bookstore, located in the University Center, has continued to serve student through its online portal and we are pleased to announce that it will open for in-store business on Monday, Aug. 3rd. You can continue to make purchases for the fall term online, but you can now also shop in the store. You are encouraged to make purchases in advance of the beginning of the fall term, and they will be ready for pick up either in the store or through a convenient non-interior door that has been designated as a “curbside pickup” for your textbook/supplies orders.

Social responsibility: LSUS is a community, and all community members are expected to play a role in protecting the health of other community members. All community members will be required to wear a mask unless it is possible to maintain six feet of distance between individuals. Cloth masks are recommended. These masks must be worn when indoors or when unable to distance outside, and must cover nose and mouth. Students in face-to-face classes who refuse to wear a mask will not be admitted to classrooms and may be subject to referral for potential violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

You can find previous student messages and other information related to the LSUS response to Covid-19 on the LSUS COVID-19 webpage.

Stay safe.

Paula Atkins, Ed.D.