

Longwood community,

I'd like to update you on a few items as we move through the early days of October.

Covid-19

Cases are continuing on college campuses across Virginia, and unfortunately again ticking up again nationally over the last two weeks. Here at Longwood, in the past few days we are also seeing an uptick in student positive cases. While fluctuations in our active cases are expected, this can be an extremely contagious virus and we must recommit ourselves to the steps that will limit spread.

That means social distancing, hand hygiene, and face coverings. And it means staying the course not just visibly on campus, during the day and in classroom settings with our precautions in place and working well, but in all interactions off campus as well. Remember that by returning to campus this fall, students pledged to abide by the [Shared Commitment](#) developed by the SGA and other student leaders.

That commitment includes not attending gatherings -- on campus or off, here or elsewhere -- where safety guidelines are not met. Please honor that commitment, and the associated Student Conduct and Integrity rules in the student handbook, which will be aggressively enforced. Do not be the person who lets your guard down, catches this virus and spreads it to others.

It's also extremely important to reach out to the University Health Center if you have [possible symptoms](#). Possible symptoms of Covid-19 can overlap with other common ailments. UHC now has some improved testing tools and resources allowing many of those with symptoms to get quicker results. What that means is if you come in with symptoms, you may now be able to receive a quicker initial result and if negative avoid having to quarantine while awaiting results. If you do need to quarantine, our Support Team is here for you. Please reach out to UHC at 434-395-2102 if you have questions or concerns. As a reminder, UHC services are available to students, faculty, staff and families.

Flu shots are especially important this year. For students, there will be two walk-in flu shot clinics at the UHC this month. There is no appointment necessary, just come with a face covering to get your flu shot. They are:

- Thursday, Oct. 15, 4-7 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 29, 4-7 p.m.

For employees, UHC will be holding another flu shot clinic Tuesday, October 20 from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in Maugans-Virginia room. You must sign up for an appointment time at <https://doodle.com/poll/6hu8xm3vsdns2sud>

Wheeler Mall Construction

Work continues to progress on the steam tunnel replacement along Wheeler Mall. While the construction zone is currently an inconvenience for anyone moving from the High Street side of campus to buildings or residence halls on the other side, there is relief in sight. Work is progressing on the Hiner Hall side of the construction area, and we expect to be able to open up the sidewalk nearest Hiner at Brock Commons within the next week, which should alleviate many movement issues on campus.

Great Earthquake Shakeout Drill

Next Thursday, Oct. 15, Longwood will participate in the nationwide Great Earthquake Shakeout drill. At approximately 9:45 a.m., the outside sirens and aspects of the alert system will be activated for the drill. You do not have to take any action. In an actual earthquake residents in affected areas should drop to the ground, take cover, and hold on. The drill will last approximately five minutes.

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