

Pandemic Response Team

January 6, 2021

Zoom

9:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Dr. George Pimentel, President

Dr. Larry Bailey, Vice President of Academic Affairs – joined late

Kim Benson, Representative for Dean of Health Sciences and CIT

Steve Cornelison, Director of Athletics

Patrick Davis, Dean of Academic Support

Tim Dellinger, Vice President of Financial and Administrative Affairs

Meda Falls, Director of Savannah Center

Heather Freeman, Administrative Assistant to the President

Jessica Gelinis, Classified Council Representative

Robin Marek, Interim Vice President of Student Services

Dr. Liz Mayo, Faculty Council Representative

Shannon Mayo, Coordinator of Paris Site

John McCommon, Director of Public Relations and Marketing

Linda Nickell, Dean of Students

Lisa Rojas, Director of Humboldt Center

Sandy Stanfill, Director of Lexington Center

Patti Tanski-Mego, Professional Technical Council Representative

Preston Turner, Director of Physical Plant

Amy West, Director of Human Resources

Dr. Leslie West Sands, Dean of Nursing

Shane Young, Chief of Police

Absent:

Janiah Kyle, SGA Representative

- **Welcome**

Dr. Pimentel began the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

- **Case Report Updates:**

- Employee Report:

Number of employee positives: 2

One employee's child is quarantined. They do not have the option to work off campus and are on leave.

- Student Report:

Number of student positives: 1
This student's isolation ends today.

- Guest:
No reports from visitors.
- Off campus sites:
Most student requests are handled by phone calls. Students needing in person assistance are still mostly managed by appointments with the exception being the Paris location. They are housed in a public facility and have some walk in traffic. No off campus location has received a report of exposure or COVID-19 positives.

- **Vaccine for clinical students/faculty**

The Tennessee Department of Health has defined the Phase 1a2 for vaccines as individuals working in any aspect of out-patient health care, including outpatient laboratory staff working with COVID-19 specimens, this includes our clinical faculty and students. Many of our nursing and health sciences students are being offered the vaccination through their employers and/or being encouraged to take it at their clinical locations.

- **Campus Operational Status**

The team discussed the reasons for remaining at operational level 3 with the Governor's Executive Order number 70. The order states that Tennesseans should work from home where possible. If possible, supervisors have been encouraged to allow staff to work from home. However, not all can do that and we must continue to serve our students and continue business operations. Supervisors have also been instructed to rotate staff when possible, socially distance and encourage all to wear masks when they are not in individual offices. We are balancing student needs and safety. Safety is most important, but we are able to provide alternate work offices when social distancing is not an option in cubicle or open office areas. Most are able to self-isolate in an area on campus. If individuals have concerns with their work space or justifiable reason for not being on campus, they should work with Human Resources to discuss accommodations.

The team continued to discuss spring enrollment, the need for all to assist students when possible, and the challenges presented in our current environment.

- **Future Planning**

As we look to begin returning more students to campus for traditional in person classes, this team will lead the discussion to ensure we are logistically prepared.