Pratt Town Hall
Lab Reopening
May 18, 2020
Goals of Duke University’s Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

- Protect public health
- Support patient care and clinical staff at Duke Health
- Continue the institution’s vital missions of education and research
Guiding Principles

- Aligned and consistent with local orders and ordinances of the City of Durham and Durham County, as well as the State of North Carolina’s Phased Reopening Model.

- Follow recommendations from the federal government (Opening Guidelines), CDC, N.C. Department of Public Health, and the Duke Health Advising Team.

- Knowledge and understanding of the COVID-19 virus continues to evolve, and our policies and plans will be updated as appropriate as more information becomes available.
Goals

- Enable labs to start operating again
- Not a return to normal
- Create a safe environment:
  - Providing daily health screens
  - Wearing of face masks
  - Keep the density of our workforce as low as possible at any given time and create a balanced daily plan that maintains safe distances between employees.
Lab Reopening

- Who is affected: Faculty, graduate students, postdocs, and staff who do experimental work that can only be done on campus
- Who needs to continue working remotely:
  - Faculty, students and research staff whose work is primarily computational and does not require them to do laboratory work
  - Most staff
  - Undergraduates
- Why is this happening now? The situation has improved sufficiently that we can restart research activity as long as appropriate safety measures are followed
Building Reopenings

- Chesterfield and LSRC – Wednesday May 13
- Fitzpatrick CIEMAS and French – Tuesday May 26
- Hudson, Gross Hall, North and Teer- Monday June 1

Phased time between each reopening to:

- Assess effectiveness of processes
- Set up hand sanitizers and signage
Lab Reopening Flow Chart

Faculty develop plans for reopening labs

- Review, modification, approval
- Faculty completes survey
  - Listing those returning to labs
  - Provides links for returning students and staff to complete health screening forms and daily symptoms screening and
- Returning students and staff complete health screening

Once lab reopens
- Returning students and staff provide daily symptom screening and departure logs
Personnel Density in Labs

- All lab plans are based on:
  - 250 square feet per person
  - At least 6 feet per person at all times
  - Masks are required at all times
Cleaning and Disinfecting of Spaces and Enhanced Cleaning – Facilities Management

- Maintain cleaning and disinfecting practices in accord with CDC and OESO approvals
- Routine cleaning of indoor spaces
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched indoor surfaces
- Disinfect areas if possible COVID19 cases arise, per direction from OESO and Employee Health
- Maintain routine practices of outdoor areas
- Maintain hand-sanitizer stations at major building entrances, elevator stops, and high-traffic areas
Maintaining Social Distancing

- No more than one person may enter an elevator at a time. Please use the stairs whenever possible and do not congregate in those areas.
- Only one person in restrooms at a time. Signs will be posted to indicate if restroom is occupied.
- No in-person meetings. Use videoconferencing software.
- When eating, eat alone or maintain social distancing.
Responsibilities of Lab Personnel

- Before you leave home for work, you must complete the online EOHW screening checklist. If flagged by the screening checklist, you must contact the COVID-19 hotline at 919-385-0429, as well as your direct supervisor, and act on their instructions.
- Wear face masks at all times on site – Disposable or cloth face covering
- Maintain social distancing, 6 foot minimum
- Wash hands frequently
- Cleaning inside labs – clean between shifts using soap and water
- Register when you leave the building
Risk and Disease Symptoms

- If you believe that you are at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 and you are concerned about reporting to work or if you wish to seek a reasonable accommodation under the ADA, you should contact the Disability Management System (DMS) or EOHW to discuss further. You can reach EOHW by calling 919-684-3136, choosing option #2, and asking to speak with a COVID support team provider.

- If you nonetheless show any symptoms of COVID-19, believe you have been exposed to the virus or have additional health concerns or questions about COVID-19, please contact student health (students) at 919-681-9355 or employee health (employees) at 919-684-3136

- If you have tested positive for COVID-19, have been referred for testing by EOHW or are awaiting test results, you must notify your supervisor immediately, and you may not come to work for any reason until approved by EOHW.
Responsibilities of Pratt School of Engineering

- Post signage (6’ distance/traffic flow, etc.)
- Ensure that hand sanitizers are functional and report any problems with cleaning in high traffic areas
- Initial distribution of masks
- Reconfigure indoor/outdoor spaces for social distance (remove chairs from meeting rooms, break rooms)
- Monitoring labs to ensure social distancing
Mask Distribution

- Pratt Facilities will place orders from Duke for the school based on lab re-open plans.
- We will begin distribution to labs from 8am-10am each day May 26 – May 29, the first week of opening in Twinnie’s.
- Labs can send a representative for the lab to get a 2-3 week supply for all staff expected to be on campus.
- As more masks are needed, email ben.locascio@duke.edu for re-supply.
Mask Guidance (Updated as of 5/19/20)

- Duke is currently providing disposable masks if needed. These may only be worn for one day and then put in the trash.
- You may also wear a cloth face covering, which will help Duke reduce the need to purchase additional masks, which are in short supply. Cloth face coverings also may only be worn for one day at a time, then properly laundered.
- Please prepare by having a week’s supply of cloth face coverings to reduce the need for daily laundering.
- We will notify everyone if this guidance changes.
Placement of Hand Sanitizers

- Duke FMD has removed hand sanitizers in restrooms throughout campus to redeploy in OESO-recommended locations. You will see them in public entrance areas, some public spaces and near elevators. This deployment will be expanded to core facilities and dry labs as available.
Signage for Bathrooms, Entrances/Exits and Elsewhere

- Signage will be installed to remind occupants of 1 person per restroom, 1 person per elevator and other reminders.
- We will have signage to indicate restroom is occupied.
- There will be a display board installed at each building entrance with important reminders. Please see for updates.
Monitoring of Labs

- Monitoring will be accomplished by Pratt Facilities and department designates to ensure compliance with wearing masks, and lab density.
Chesterfield Reopening Update

- Reopening has gone well
Contacts and Additional Information

- DukeReach: 919-681-2455 or dukereach@duke.edu
- Duke CAPS: 919-660-1000; after 5PM on-call mental health support service: 919-966-3820
- Duke PAS: https://pas.duke.edu/about/counseling-services/online-counseling-services
- Mental telehealth bluedevilsare.duke.edu. Register once using the service key DUKE2020
- Duke student assistance fund
Q: Is any accommodation being made for on-campus parking?

- A: Yes. Through June 30th, Duke Parking Services will provide proximate parking for those with remote parking permits and those without individual Duke parking permits. Those with on-campus permits should park in their normal location. Please contact Parking Services with specific questions.
Q. Can We Leave Trash from the Lab in the Hallway for Removal by Housekeeping?

- A. Housekeeping will continue to remove trash from the labs. OESO asks that we not leave trash in the hall since this creates a fire hazard. If you need to remove excess trash from your lab during this period, please designate lab members to take excess trash to the dumpsters.
Q. How do we report a breach of safety guidelines?

- If you believe that your co-workers or colleagues are not observing the safety measures put into place, please contact the anonymous hotline at 1-800-826-8109 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) or oarc.duke.edu
Thank you!

- Challenging environment
- Appreciate cooperation and efforts of everyone
- Continue to be flexible as situation evolves, requiring further changes
- Send questions to
  - Research: George Truskey, gtruskey@duke.edu
  - Facilities: Mitchell Vann, mitchell.vann@duke.edu