

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: COVID-19 Update, Seidel/Benham Deal

SESSION TYPE:

- Work Session
- Education Session
- Information Item
- Other:

[Committee of the Whole – Items for Approval]

Attachments are provided with the narrative—refer to Supplemental Materials Report.

APPLIES TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

- Yes (select below):
 - Driving Excellence
 - Inspiring Students
 - Impacting Communities
 - High-Performing University
- No [Regular Business]

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

As UW enters Phase 2, the University has taken the opportunity to examine the contingency plans set in place to help determine the safest manner to return students to campus. The initial contingency plans were developed to help the University navigate a spike of COVID-19 cases on campus. As the institution emerges from a successful short term pause in operations, the President asked the committee to revisit the contingency framework, with the benefit of the information now understood through the pause and continued migration back to campus.

In consultation with this committee, and others across the University and community, the President is recommending that UW adopt a set of indicators that will be monitored on a daily basis. In response to these indicators, the President and leadership team will have at their disposal a wide-ranging set of actions and interventions that can be taken, based on a combination of the data and the context of the evolving situation.

Indicators tracked will include data such as total on-campus student cases per day, UW capacity for isolation/quarantine, and the total number of active cases. While action taken may include a pause, alternative options could include quarantining a single residence hall or floor of a hall, shifting a specific class or event to an online venue for a period of time, or reducing density of a designated area. It is expected that this approach will provide the University a set of actions that can help enable the goal of continuing on campus learning.

PRIOR RELATED BOARD DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS:

At the June 2020 Board of Trustees Conference Call, the Board approved the University's Plan to Restart Campus and Restore Normal Operations. UW Administration was asked to provide additional reports, including a decision matrix for determining if a shift in operations is needed. At the July 2020 Board of Trustees meeting, the Board approved allowing UW administration the flexibility to make further modifications to the Plan without Board approval as the COVID-19 situation changes and evolves. In August, the Board approved the Decision Matrix for the Contingency Plan, with minor modifications.

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE BOARD:

In August, the Board approved the Decision Matrix for the Contingency Plan, with minor modifications. The University is seeking approval for a revised contingency framework.

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS BOARD MEETING:

Board approval or disapproval of the revised contingency framework.

PROPOSED MOTION:

“I move to approve the revised contingency framework as presented to the Board, with the flexibility for the President and administration to revise as needed to meet the evolving situation.”

PRESIDENT’S RECOMMENDATION:

The President recommends approval.

As UW enters Phase 2, the University has the opportunity to review and refine indicators of COVID-19 prevalence on campus and the set of available responses to support data-based decision making.

Section 1: What are the indicators?

1. Total # of symptomatic cases (on and off campus) per day
2. Total # of on campus (Residence Halls, Fraternity and Sorority Life) student cases per day
3. # of total cases per day over two consecutive days
4. Seven-day weekly total new cases
5. # of one-day increase of new cases in the UW population relative to the seven-day rolling average
6. Sample disease prevalence
7. # of UW fatalities
8. Capacity for isolation/quarantine
9. Hospitalizations (# of admitted COVID patients)
10. Total # of active cases
11. Total # of new cases in a single day

Section 2: What data thresholds may cause UW to take action?

1. Total # of symptomatic cases (on and off campus) per day: **5 cases**
2. Total # of on campus (Residence Halls, Fraternity and Sorority Life) student cases per day: **5 cases**
3. # of total cases per day over two consecutive days: **15 cases**
4. Seven-day rolling average of total cases: **Increasing over 20%**
5. # of one-day increase of new cases in the UW population relative to the 7-day rolling average: **20 cases**
6. Sample disease prevalence: **Over 3%**
7. # of UW fatalities: **1 fatality**
8. Capacity for isolation/quarantine: **Less than 20%**
9. Hospitalizations (# of admitted COVID patients):
 - a. Total # of local hospitalizations – community indicator: **Track actuals** (no thresholds)
 - b. Total # of UW hospitalizations – as tracked by COVID Hub: **Track actuals** (no thresholds)
10. Total # of active cases: **150-200 active cases** (on and off campus during the same period of time)
11. Total # of new cases in a single day: **40 new cases**

Disclaimer: These examples are not all inclusive; other indicators may be considered, and many different interventions and tactics may be taken in response to the indicators.

Campus	Student Life	Academics	Employees	Events	Research
Campus 1. Limit non-residential students on campus 2. Limit visitors to campus 3. Limiting access to campus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certain buildings Certain students Certain activities Certain classes 4. Campus open 5. Establishing quarantine/ Isolation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certain buildings Certain students Certain activities Certain classes Certain floors (dorms) 6. Establishing curfew <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certain buildings Certain students Certain activities Certain floors (dorms) No curfew 	Suspension of student activities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stay at home orders No activity (community and university) School activity only (classes, library, academics, ½ acre) Individual/pod activity outdoors-walking, hiking Socially distanced activity Travel <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Student encouraged to limit off campus trips Students encouraged to limit out of county travel Students encouraged to limit out of state travel Student encouraged to limit international travel Student Meals <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Meal services provided to on-campus students only; dining facilities closed Dinning Services are operating under health & safety restriction Dinning Services are operating as they were prior to the pandemic Student Programming <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Face-to-face student program for pods only; virtual student programming for all others Face-to-face student programming with health & safety protocols, only for on-campus students Limited student programming with health & safety protocols, for all students Student Visitors <ol style="list-style-type: none"> No off-campus visitors allowed Visitors allowed in residence halls following RLDS protocols / guidelines 	Learning Modality <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Online learning only Hybrid Flex In person as desired Advising and office hours <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual office hours and academic advising Limited face-to-face office hours and academic advising In-person advising and office hours for on-campus population only In-person advising and office hours for all Travel <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty encouraged to limit out of county travel Faculty encouraged to limit out of state travel Faculty encouraged to limit international travel 	On Campus <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Only critical pause personnel on campus Remote work strongly encouraged Phase 1 personnel on campus Phase 2 personnel on campus Phase 3 personnel on campus Visiting scholars welcome Office and remote work restrictions lifted Travel <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Employee encouraged to limit travel out of Albany County Employees encouraged to limit out of state travel Employees encouraged to limit international travel 	1. Virtual interactions required; Indoor and outdoor events should be cancelled or reschedule 2. Indoor gatherings / events can host up to 25 individuals if social distancing is possible; Outdoor gatherings / events can host up to 50 individuals if social distancing is possible 3. Indoor gatherings / events can host up to 50 individuals if social distancing is possible; Outdoor gatherings / events can host up to 150 individuals if social distancing is possible 4. Events, including Athletics, can host pre-pandemic maximum capacity	1. On campus research only where total social distancing possible 2. Field work allowed as needed, following health and safety protocols 3. Remote work strongly encouraged 4. Office and remote work restrictions lifted

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