

DEAR COLLEGE OF IDAHO COMMUNITY, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS,

It has been nearly four months since COVID-19 caused the College to transition to on-line classes, faculty and staff to start working remotely, and the majority of our students to move home. Since that time, the College has continued to support the nearly 200 students who were not able to leave campus, while also preparing for a return to in-person, in-residence instruction this fall. Six task forces were formed to focus on details related to the educational and operational functions of the College, including academics, student life, athletics, health & safety, summer employment, and financial stewardship. **The following pages are an overview of the key components of the College's plan for the Fall 2020 Semester.**

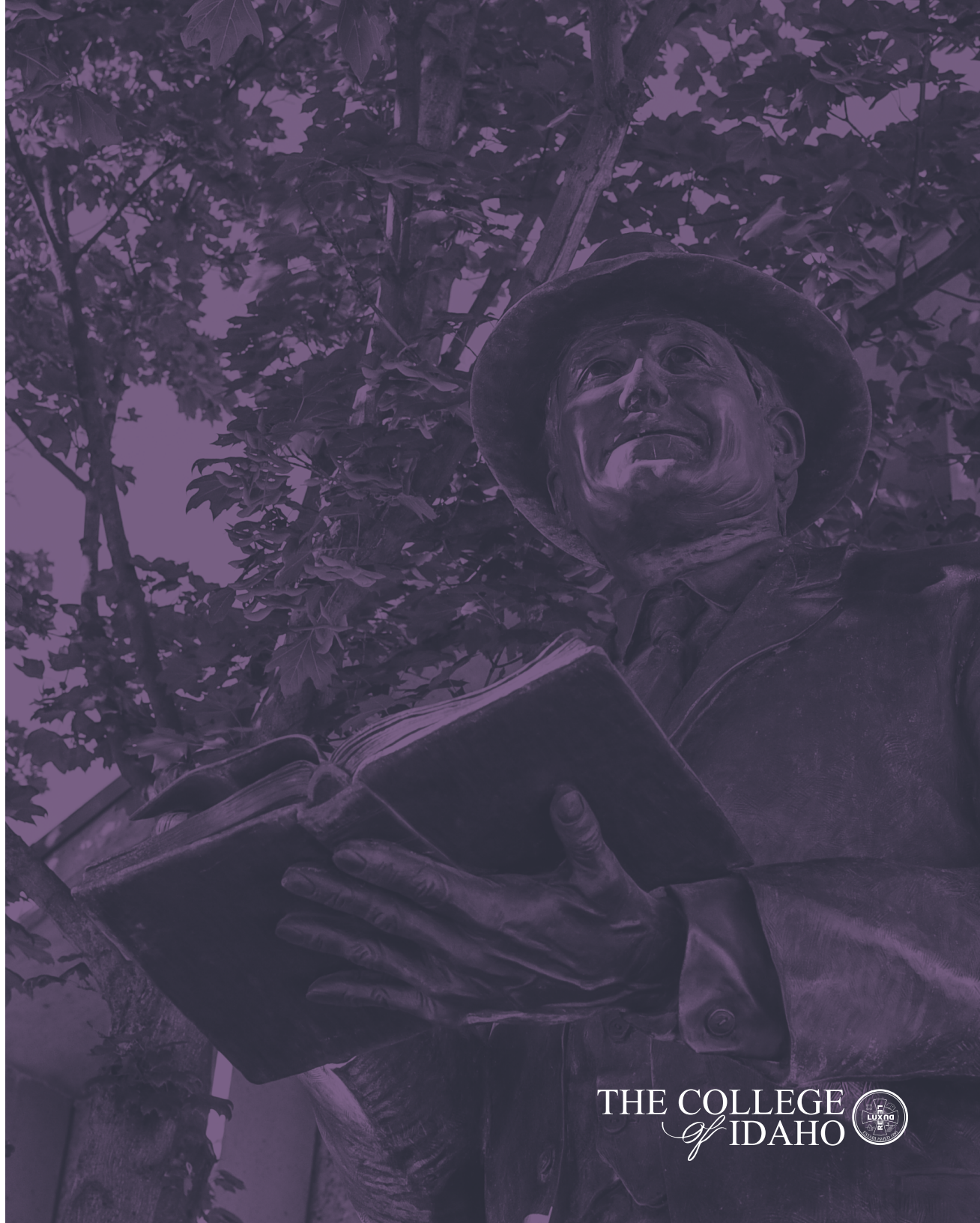
More information will follow, as task forces continue to monitor the status of COVID-19 in our region, state, nationally, and even globally, and adjust accordingly. The College is committed to our core residential, liberal arts curriculum. With the health and safety of our community at the center of our efforts, we plan to do everything necessary and prudent to fulfill our mission for the 129th consecutive year.

Go Yotes!

Sincerely,

Paul R. Bennion, Ph.D., VP for Student Affairs
& Dean of Students

David Douglass, Ph.D., VP for Academic Affairs
& Dean of Faculty



ACADEMIC CALENDAR

- The first day of classes will be Wednesday, August 19, which is one week earlier than originally scheduled. Starting one week earlier, along with some other adjustments to the academic calendar, will enable students to complete all course requirements prior to the Thanksgiving holiday late in November. This early completion date will avoid keeping students and faculty on campus during the colder months of the year when transmission of illness typically increases.
- Residence hall Move-in Days for new students will be August 13-14, and for transfers and returning students August 16-17 (more detailed information will be sent out later in the summer).

COURSE DELIVERY & PLATFORMS

- In-person, face-to-face delivery is the instructional method most aligned with the values of The College of Idaho, and we expect that a substantial majority of courses will be offered in this manner. Safety measures put into effect will vary depending on course content, classroom or lab setting, activity level, and instructor. In some cases, online or hybrid instruction may be the most safe and effective.
- Classroom capacity is being reduced in order to achieve physical distancing where possible. Other strategies may include changes to traffic flow patterns and classroom entry and exit, as well as movement through academic buildings.
- Faculty will utilize the Canvas Course Management System and the Microsoft Teams Collaboration platform for remote delivery and support of courses as needed during the coming year in order to provide a consistent and integrated experience for students.
- Preparations are being made in the event that the College is required to shift to online-only education in response to state or federal mandate, health and safety concerns, or other compelling reasons.
- Whatever mode is utilized, at least one real-time meeting (i.e., simultaneous participation by instructor and students) will take place each week, and every effort will be made to sustain the mentoring relationships that are central to a College of Idaho education.

COVID-19 TECH-RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- Students, faculty, and staff who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms will be asked to submit an online Health Reporting Form.
- Students, faculty, and staff may be asked to obtain a web-based application for daily reporting of their COVID-19-related health symptoms.
- All students will be required to provide their own personal computing device, as shared computer labs will be limited.

HEALTH & SAFETY

- All students, faculty, and staff will be required to adhere to a new social compact (forthcoming) that will address community safety standards, such as wearing face masks, physical distancing, personal hygiene, sanitation, temperature checks, reporting health symptoms, and, when necessary, contact tracing.
- All community members will be required to obtain face masks, which are to be worn at all times except when eating, alone in an office, in an assigned residence hall room, when exercising, or outside when physical distancing can be ensured.
- All community members will be expected to abide by established protocols for entrance and exit to buildings, residence halls, dining facilities, and classrooms.
- Students, faculty, and staff may be required to provide documentation of a negative COVID-19 viral test, or to submit to viral and/or antibodies testing as deemed necessary given community spread and/or public health guidance (more information will be forthcoming).
- Students will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days immediately prior to their arrival on campus.

RESIDENCE LIFE

- The College will reduce housing occupancy by 100 beds in order to de-densify the residence halls and allow for predominately single and double occupancy rooms.
- All common spaces will be sanitized by College Cleaning Staff twice daily.
- Residents will be required to sign an acknowledgment of risk of living in Campus housing.
- 15 beds in off-campus houses and one apartment have been reserved in case there is a need to isolate COVID-19 positive students. Food and other necessities will be delivered to students during isolation, and academic accommodations will also be made in order to make sure students do not fall behind in their coursework.
- Students who have known exposure to COVID-19 will be instructed to self-quarantine in their assigned room, along with any roommates. Academic accommodations will be made to make sure students do not fall behind in their coursework.
- Restrictions will be placed on the use of common spaces, laundry, and kitchens.

DINING

- Traffic flow patterns have been established to allow for physical distancing in the College's two primary dining facilities – Simplot and McCain.
- Signs will be placed at entrances that indicate current seating capacity in order to help diners determine whether to use ecotainers (to-go boxes).
- Tables and chairs will be arranged to ensure physical distancing.
- Sanitation signs will be placed on each table that indicate when it has been sanitized or needs to be sanitized following use.
- All food items will be individually wrapped, or served by staff (no self-serve).
- Grill items will only be available at McCain during weekday lunchtimes, in order to facilitate timely flow of traffic through Simplot.
- Masks will be required in dining facilities, except when eating.

ATHLETICS

- The Cascade Collegiate Conference has begun dialogue around possibly transitioning its fall sports to the spring season. The Frontier Conference, in which our football program competes, is having similar conversations. Neither conference has reached a final determination at this time. The NAIA is also looking at both options, with a return to fall sports being their current preferred path. If the fall sports season is sustained then the following provisions will apply:
- Fall sport practice is scheduled to begin August 15th, with competition to begin in September. Fall sport competition except for football can begin on September 5; football can begin competition on September 12.
- Athletes will be required to submit to daily monitoring and tracking of COVID-19 symptoms.
- All travel destinations will be evaluated in advance for COVID-19 community spread in order to determine if travel plans should proceed. No public transportation will be used for team travel.
- When traveling, all food will be prepared in advance, delivered, or picked up to-go.
- Seating capacity and traffic patterns at all home athletic venues are being evaluated in order to allow for physical distancing.
- In the event fall sports are moved to spring, the College will hold some form of practices in the fall, which would follow the established safety protocol of all members of campus.

TRAVEL

- No faculty, staff, or student College-sponsored travel will be allowed except as pre-authorized by the administration.
- When travel is approved, only transportation will be allowed that provides for physical distancing. Masks must be worn at all times (except when eating, etc.), and food must be prepared in advance, delivered, or picked up to-go.
- Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to limit off-campus exposure and travel of any sort, to consider virtual alternatives, and to adhere to the social compact (e.g., wear masks, practice physical distancing and recommended personal hygiene, and monitor/report COVID-19 symptoms).

VISITORS

- Campus visitors will be discouraged, and may be asked to report their whereabouts on campus.
- The campus will be closed to conference guests at least through December 2020.
- The Admission Office has developed specific policies for prospective students consistent with Campus COVID-19 prevention best practices.



www.collegeofidaho.edu/covid-19-updates