

**From:** [Loy, Marty](#)  
**To:** [Academic Affairs - Faculty/Staff List](#)  
**Cc:** [Summers, Greg](#); [Gibson, Thomas](#)  
**Subject:** AA Faculty and Staff COVID-19 Update  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 08, 2021 5:30:01 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Fall Guidance for Faculty and Instructors 09-08-21.docx](#)

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Colleagues,

Our second week of classes has been a fairly normal university experience thus far. We've done a good job reducing the risk of contracting the virus through caution, mask wearing and encouraging vaccination. At this point in time we have only seen a few COVID-19 cases with no major clusters in any particular locations. Rather, the virus is simply doing what a virus does. Our mechanisms for notifying affected classes and departments appear to be functioning well, but if you have questions or concerns, please let me know.

I have just a few reminders and updates below:

- Greg Summers has made a few clarifications to the guidelines sent early last week, those are attached. While some may be frustrated by a lack of strict rules, these guidelines are intended to provide the latitude to be interpreted and utilized as appropriate to different courses and different disciplines. If you have questions, be sure to seek clarification first from your director or your dean.
- As you recall, last year if someone in class was a positive COVID case, the covid case management team sent notice to class lists and instructors. This year case management protocols have changed, thus notification will no longer be done to the entire class. Instead, students who are unable to attend class because of a positive COVID-19 result or if they have been notified they were a close contact are being advised to contact their instructors directly. Please note, students who are not notified by the contact tracer are not considered close contacts.
- Additional details about the testing protocol will be sent through MOD and added to the COVID-19 website by week's end.
- If you are comfortable doing so, please encourage your students to consider getting the vaccine; to seek out science-based information for any questions or concerns; to upload their vaccination record; and to be eligible for incentive prizes. More information is on the UWSP COVID webpage:  
<https://www.uwsp.edu/coronavirus/Pages/ItsWorthAShot.aspx>.
- I have been busy meeting individually with your Assistant Deans, Directors and Deans. I must say, it has been impressive to learn from them how well the new school alignments are functioning and hear about the great work happening on our campus.

Thanks for all you are doing. Continue to lead with patience, flexibility, and understanding. Take some time to enjoy the beautiful autumn on our campus.

Marty

Marty Loy, Interim Provost  
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