



September 16, 2020

To the Heidelberg Community,

Large congregate gatherings on and off campus involving Heidelberg students, brought to our attention after last weekend, have put a number of people on our campus at risk for COVID-19. These incidents also have resulted in multiple positive cases and a significant number of exposures to the virus. We are in the process of conducting contact tracing now to identify those individuals who have been exposed. Several students have already reported experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, and we are working with those students with regard to testing, contact tracing, quarantining and/or isolation. Once a positive case is confirmed, or a contact-traced exposure case without symptoms has been confirmed, those students will be quarantined at their homes or in designated campus locations.

Effective immediately, all Heidelberg classes will transition to remote delivery for the next two weeks. At the same time, all residential students will be required to “soft quarantine” or shelter-in-place in their residence hall rooms or at home. Some students will receive a SendWordNow message due to symptoms or exposure, letting them know that they need to observe a “strict quarantine” and their meals will be delivered to them. Stoner Health & Counseling Center will oversee all “strict quarantine” cases.

**Our HYPE Career Ready® programming will go on virtually, as scheduled, tomorrow.**

**Online classes will begin on Thursday, September 17, at 3:30 p.m., and are scheduled to continue online through Friday, October 2.**

Further, the following take effect during this time, beginning immediately:

- Students will pick up take-out meals from Hoernemann Refectory and return to their rooms. All other dining locations will be open normal hours for take-out only. Berg Bistro 1850 will not be open.
- All strength and conditioning activities for student-athletes have been temporarily suspended.
- All on-campus recreational facilities, including Saurwein Health & Wellness Center, are temporarily closed.
- All Music and Theatre in-person practices and rehearsals are temporarily suspended.
- If you believe you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, you should call Stoner Health & Counseling Center at 419.448.2041.

To enable the entire campus community to continue with academic and co-curricular programming for all students, Heidelberg will not be providing refunds for remote learning or for room and board if you choose to go home during this quarantine period.

We want to reiterate that the majority of the campus community is doing all of the right things to consistently adhere to health and safety protocols, including wearing masks, social distancing, washing hands, and sanitizing your spaces frequently. But the majority is not enough. If we are to successfully reach the end of this semester here on campus and resume in-person classes and extra-curricular activities, then these health protocols must be taken seriously by everyone all of the time.

Again, we remind you: **Stay vigilant.** Every day is a new day to make good and responsible decisions. COVID-19 isn't going away any time soon, and it's clear that the acts of a few can affect the lives of many. Heidelberg has gone to great lengths to limit the spread among our campus community so that we can all be here together safely. It is incumbent upon each of you and all of us together to continue to take preventative actions both on-campus and off-campus.

Wear a mask, keep your distance, sanitize often, and do not attend large gatherings such as house parties and/or frequent busy local establishments.

Thank you very much.

With concern and respect for all,

Chris Abrams  
Dean of Student Affairs

Janelle Baldosser  
Director of Stoner Health & Counseling Center

Rob Huntington  
President

Margaret Rudolph  
Chief Human Resources Officer & Title IX Coordinator

Bryan Smith  
Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost