



September 21, 2020

Dear Heidelberg Students:

We now have a big Student Prince challenge to bring ourselves back onto campus as one community united together for residential learning and living until Thanksgiving Break. To reiterate what our *Information about Quarantine Levels* message said on Friday evening, it will take "every member of the Heidelberg Community to practice preventative measures -- wearing masks, social distancing, good hygiene, and sanitizing your space -- all of the time if we are going to successfully reach the end of the semester."

That is what each one of us wants this fall. All of us have that shared responsibility and choice to make now.

In my walk-arounds and drive-arounds on the campus over the past four days, I have seen and felt a lot of emptiness. I said hello and goodbye to two students at opposite ends of campus on Saturday who were packing their cars to quarantine at home. The lower student parking lot had only 13 cars on Friday evening and only 7 cars by early this morning. I stood at the Rock Creek Trail green sign at the bottom curve of Rebecca Street for several minutes at the lunch hour on Saturday and literally saw nobody in all directions. I stood near the Heidelberg Clock at Campus Center for several minutes at the dinner hour yesterday and literally saw one person walk down Greenfield Street. I stood alone on our great Berg logo at the center of Riesen Field both days imagining the exciting games, awesome marching band music, loud crowds, family gatherings, and student energy that usually fill that space every year at this time ... empty.

I do not like this feeling on our campus!

If you need medical assistance about COVID-19, please call the Stoner Health & Counseling Center at 419-448-2041 for advice and directions on testing. You should not go to the testing site at Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital without contacting Stoner H&C Center first.

Let everyone who tested positive get well over the next two weeks. Then all of us must come out of quarantine back together, make better health and well-being choices, and commit ourselves more vigorously with greater accountability to each other and to the entire Heidelberg campus community. We can do it!

Thank you.

Rob Huntington
President