



August 31, 2020

Dear Heidelberg Students:

Congratulations on completing your first week of fall semester classes online and making it through our COVID-19 campus or home quarantine while we waited for all of the test results last week. Welcome to your first week of classes back in classrooms on campus ... the first time for campus classes since the University was forced to close down in mid-March!

It was great news to learn that our entire community had a coronavirus positivity rate of only 0.51% after completing 1,374 tests of students, faculty, staff, and campus business partners.

It was wonderful when Dean of Student Affairs Chris Abrams lifted the student quarantine on Friday afternoon.

I popped into Hoernemann Refectory for about an hour last night to see how the take-out food service is going. I walked through the line a couple of times to check things out. It moved pretty quickly both times and the fresh food looked great. Based on my casual conversations with numerous students, there seemed to be a lot of food happiness ... more choices, bigger portions, multiple servings ... and getting outside the residence halls looked energizing for everyone.

The Parkhurst Dining Team did a very good job delivering meals to rooms during the quarantine. They are now providing excellent service during these take-out transition days in Hoernemann. And as communicated already, they are gearing up to reopen the other campus eating locations later this week. We should all express our appreciation to Parkhurst for their hard work and dedication to Heidelberg.

We now move forward with the fall semester together and we share the responsibility for our campus success against the ongoing threat of COVID-19. This is a big challenge for Heidelberg. If we follow all of the health and safety protocols (face masks, hand-washing, physical distancing, no large gatherings, and daily health self-evaluation), we will succeed together.

I have great confidence in all of us!

Thank you.

Rob Huntington
President.