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Subj: Spring Update #17

Dear Colleagues:

It's hard to believe it, but today marks the last day of class for the spring semester. Our students have faced and overcome many challenges this semester, and you have been a key partner in their success. Thank you for all that you have done to support them. Your instruction and counsel, vital services that keep the University operating smoothly, prayers for their safety, and other contributions too numerous to count have truly made a difference.

#### By the numbers

We continue to be encouraged by our testing results, which show a 7-day average of 1 case/day and a 7-day positivity rate of 0.1%.

It is our strong belief that these numbers, the lowest we've seen all semester, are a result of the proactive efforts of members of the Notre Dame community to receive COVID-19 vaccinations. All of the vaccines currently approved in the United States have been shown to be highly effective in the fight against COVID-19 and will help build herd immunity to slow the spread of the disease.

# Thank you to our vaccine clinic volunteers

Our heartfelt gratitude to the many faculty, staff, and students who signed up to staff our recent campus vaccination clinics. Approximately 500 volunteers showed up for the April clinic and again for the May clinic – taking time out of their busy schedules, including nights and weekends, to help make sure that we were able to meet demand and improve the overall health outlook for our campus.

### More than 90 percent of students vaccinated

We celebrate the fact that more than 90 percent of our undergraduate and professional student population have received the vaccine on campus or have uploaded off-campus vaccination documentation. What a great example they have set for their peers across the nation and for us, as faculty, staff, and fellow members of the Notre Dame community.

## The importance of documenting your vaccination

As faculty and staff are vaccinated, it is also important that corresponding documentation is provided to the University. Doing so helps inform decisions regarding campus health and safety measures required for the community and for individuals.

If you have received the second dose of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines, or a single dose of the J&J vaccine, please upload your vaccination information <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>. You will receive a confirmation email after successfully uploading your documentation. (Please note that this reporting system is separate from the Indiana COVID-19 Registry, and information is not shared between the two.)

#### How to confirm your vaccine documentation upload

Faculty and staff who have already provided vaccine documentation can review submitted forms at any time using the <a href="PyraMed portal">PyraMed portal</a>. To confirm your documentation, click the "My Profile" drop-down tab and select "Immun. History." This will download a PDF with your Immunization History. Your COVID-19 vaccination should be listed under Vaccination History.

## **Closing thoughts**

Yesterday, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration expanded its emergency use authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to include 12- to 15-year-olds following clinical trials that have proven safe and effective for this age group. While Indiana's vaccine eligibility remains open only to those 16 and older at this time, we expect the guidelines to be adjusted in the near future.

This is a promising time for Notre Dame, as we look to the summer months and make plans to return to some semblance of the lives we lived prior to March 2020. In celebration of summer, here is a photo of Marie Lynn's first hive of honeybees. That's Hattie emerging from the bee box. There are about 20,000 bees now, so feel free to send in your name suggestions.



As always, please remember:

- Wear your mask
- Practice physical distancing
- Wash your hands frequently
- Complete your daily health check
- Keep your scheduled testing appointments

Yours in Notre Dame,

Marie Lynn Miranda, Provost Shannon Cullinan, Executive Vice President