

September 8, 2020

Subj: Reopening the University – Message 18

Dear Colleagues,

The number of active Covid-19 cases among our campus community members continues to decline. Today we noted a combined seven-day moving average of 3.7 daily cases, something that might not have seemed possible just a few weeks ago. While there is no room for complacency, we are cautiously optimistic that we have regained our footing.

Our message to you this week is one of gratitude for your tremendous efforts in preparing for the fall semester, your continued focus during the first four weeks, and your many efforts to support our graduate and undergraduate students. It seems fitting that during Labor Day week, we acknowledge your labors! We could not be more impressed with the dedication and resilience you have demonstrated.

In the coming weeks, we expect decisions will be made on issues including the spring academic calendar, the feasibility of resuming spring study abroad programs, and travel policies and protocols between semesters.

We obviously have a big weekend coming up with the first home football game of the season against Duke. This early season matchup will answer many questions both on and off the playing field. We know the student-athletes and coaches are ready to play. And we are hopeful that our game plan for students and fans to play a disciplined defense against the coronavirus results in wins on and off the field for Notre Dame.

Please remember:

- Wear your mask
- Practice physical distancing
- Wash your hands regularly
- Complete your daily health check
- Show up when selected for surveillance testing

And be kind to each other and generous with yourself.

Go Irish,

Marie Lynn Miranda, Provost
Shannon Cullinan, Executive Vice President