

Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 1:06 PM Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: A return to in-person instruction for Fall 2021
Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 1:06 PM
From: Peyre, Sarah (Warner School of Education)
To: Warner School Faculty & Staff; Warner Students

Dear Warner community,

The Warner School is planning to resume in-person instruction for the 2021-22 academic year, beginning with fall semester. After a year of disruption and uncertainty, we look forward to returning to more normal operations in the fall, much like we had prior to the pandemic, that allows us to engage as a vibrant learning community in LeChase Hall.

We are currently developing plans for the fall that will include a safe return to in-person learning as our default mode of instruction, but that will also include increased courses that are offered hybrid and online. For course mode, [please refer to the course schedule](#) that will be updated regularly. In staying with the [Academic Calendar](#), our fall semester classes will begin on Wednesday, August 25 and run through Wednesday, December 8. Barring something unforeseen, Warner faculty and staff will end remote work and return to campus on Monday, August 2 to prepare for a successful transition for all of our students.

While we can say we expect in-person classroom instruction to be the norm and that we will welcome students back on campus, we cannot say for certain now precisely how classrooms may be configured, or what the physical distancing between students may be. Please keep in mind that we will need to continue to follow the guidance of medical professionals and public health officials based on the present state of COVID-19 on campus. Equally important, we will continue to be flexible in addressing the educational needs of our international students who may face travel restrictions and students who have health concerns. Our plans and policies for instruction, activities, and operations for the 2021-22 academic year will be updated regularly and may be subject to change. As always, the University of Rochester and Warner School reserve the prerogative to change the mode of instruction for any course to online or hybrid delivery whenever deemed necessary or pedagogically appropriate.

So, while some uncertainties may still lie ahead, we are optimistic as the vaccine distribution will continue to be widely deployed and our current students, faculty, and staff can register to be vaccinated through the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC). Vaccination pre-registration is required through a [URMC waitlist here](#). We will continue to take any necessary preventative measures, including thorough cleanings of LeChase Hall, mask wearing, social distancing and more, as required by state and federal guidelines. And one thing is always for certain: your safety has—and will continue to be—a top priority.

As much as we wish we could all be together sooner, our [Summer 2021 courses will be fully online](#), as announced in February. In the meantime, we thank you for always being flexible and supportive. We look forward to welcoming you back to campus this fall.

Meliora,

Sarah E. Peyre, EdD

Dean, Warner School of Education and Human Development

Douglas Guiffrida, PhD

Interim Warner School Dean (effective July 1 – Dec. 31 2021)