

May 12, 2020

**COVID-19: Committee on Return to On-Campus Operations**

***SHIELD: Target, Test, Tell***

Marty Burke, Associate Dean for Research, Carle Illinois College of Medicine (*Chair*)  
Kayla Banks, Vice President, Carle  
Tyeese Braslavsky, Student  
Jessica Breitbarth, Associate Dean for Advancement, Carle Illinois College of Medicine  
Chris Brooke, Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology  
Brian Cunningham, Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, MNTL  
Tim Fan, Professor, Veterinary Clinical Medicine  
Katie Frye, Graduate Student, Department of Microbiology  
Nigel Goldenfeld, Professor, Department of Physics  
Vicky Gress, Executive Associate Provost for Budget and Resource Planning  
Paul Hergenrother, Professor, Department of Chemistry  
Nate Hoffmann, Director, Office of Technology Management  
Paulanne Jushkevich, Associate Vice Chancellor for Advancement - Health Sciences and Research Initiatives  
Bill King, Professor Mechanical Science and Engineering  
Dave Kranz, Professor, Department of Biochemistry  
Sean MacAllister, Student  
Kenton McHenry, Associate Director, NCSA  
Eric Minor, Chief Marketing Officer, Office of Strategic Marketing and Branding  
Lowa Mwilambwe, Associate Vice Chancellor, Auxiliaries, Health & Wellness, Student Affairs  
Robert Parker, Director, McKinley Health Center  
Jennifer Quirk, Associate Director for Research and External Affairs, IGB  
Brent Roberts, Director, Center for Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Blair Rowitz, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, Carle Illinois College of Medicine; Carle  
Charlie Simpson, Executive Director of Marketing and Communications, Carle Illinois College of Medicine  
Preeti Sharma, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Department of Biochemistry  
Rebecca Smith, Assistant Professor Epidemiology, College of Veterinary Medicine  
Bill Sullivan, Professor of Landscape Architecture  
Awais Vaid, Deputy Administrator, Champaign Urbana Public Health District  
John Vozenilek, Co-Director JUMP Simulation Center, Carle Illinois College of Medicine; OSF  
Kraig Wagenecht, Senior Director, External Research Partnerships, OVCRI  
Leyi Wang, Clinical Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine  
Nick Vance, Manager, Data and Technology Innovation (*ex officio*)  
Steve Witmer – Director, UI News Bureau (*ex officio*)

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for agreeing to serve on the COVID-19 SHIELD: Target, Test, Tell working team under the coordination of the COVID-19: Executive Steering Committee on Return to On-Campus Operations. Martin Burke, Associate Dean for Research for the Carle Illinois College of Medicine and Professor of Chemistry will be Team Lead and Tim Fan, Professor and Assistant Head of Research and Graduate

Studies for the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine will be Diagnostics Operations Manager. Kraig Wagenecht, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, will serve as Project Manager. Your work will complement the efforts of six other teams being charged as part of this effort: Academics, Community and Public Engagement, Finance and Operations, Human Resources and Staffing, Research and Scholarship and University Life.

A clearly delineated, scientifically verified, and comprehensive program of target, test and tell, consistent with any state and local health department guidelines is essential to ensure the ongoing safety and health of our students, faculty, staff, and local community as we return to on-campus operations. Developing and designing this inaugural program for rapid implementation in real-time is the fundamental charge I am presenting to your team. It is also critical that your mission be carried out in partnership with the Champaign Urbana Public Health District (CUPHD) and our local health care partners. For this, I am also grateful to our team members from Carle, OSF, and CUPHD. I leave it to you to determine the specific steps, to map out the actions that will be required and to prioritize them.

More broadly, I ask your team to:

- Identify, evaluate and design the parameters and components of a COVID-19 target, test and tell program that can be quickly implemented, scaled up or down as necessary and that can be reasonably sustained for the duration of the pandemic threat. This process should be driven by proven scientific and medical evidence that continues to emerge and will undoubtedly evolve. Policies associated with the COVID-19 target, test, and tell program must also address the legal, ethical and public perception issues that will be raised.
- In this immediate, first phase of your work, establish the framework, as well as a proposed budget that will be necessary to immediately begin preparing for a transition back to on-campus operations and activities this summer, including research and scholarship, in alignment with Gov. Pritzker relaxing current stay-at-home orders and in anticipation of the return of our student body to campus in the Fall.
- In a second, ongoing phase (that plans for summer on-campus operations, as well as ramp-up of operations for fall 2020 and beyond), recommend actionable plans, policies and processes that must be implemented for resumption of our campus life activities for the fall 2020 semester, the full academic year and future terms as necessary.
- Develop plans for coordination and communication of your team's activities and recommendations with the Executive Steering Committee and the other six working teams.
- Prepare a comprehensive **targeting** approach that maximizes the campus' capacities across several fronts including frontier epidemiological concepts and strategies, diagnostic lab-based technologies, secure information storage, modeling, communication, as well as community engagement.
- Define optimal scientific protocols for a scalable **testing** program that will likely include different testing methodologies for both COVID-19 virus and anti-COVID-19 antibodies (that may change as new information emerges), retrofitting appropriate laboratory space with ongoing safety procedures and compliance, data flow, purchase of critical equipment, and hiring personnel. Protocols shall be developed for testing populations and frequency.
- Ensure a plan for approval and/or endorsement from federal, state, local, and campus regulatory units (i.e. CLIA, FDA, CDC, IDPH, IRB, DRS, etc.)
- Ensure coordination with CUPHD and our local health care partners in our processes, operations, and responses.

- Create a HIPAA/FERPA compliant information database. Consider data collection, storage and utilization needs.
- Develop business management protocols including budget, reporting and necessary operational tools.
- Develop an effective platform to **tell** individuals and communities the data that is generated in the testing facility and its implications and empower individuals via exposure notifications and next steps guidance enabled by frontier contact tracing and digital interface technology, in conjunction with CUHPD. Establish protocols for interviewing and isolation, along with mechanisms for engagement with healthcare community/advisors.

This pandemic has brought us unprecedented challenges. We ask you to assist us in determining the best approaches to address these challenges. Your work will have tremendous impact on our campus and community. I ask that your decisions and recommendations be guided by these core principles:

- Protection of the safety and health of our students, faculty, staff and local community
- Preservation of our land-grant missions of education, scholarship, service and engagement
- Processes that are transparent, open, consultative and respectful of our traditions of shared governance

As the first step of this process, I ask your team to coordinate with Mike DeLorenzo who chairs the Executive Steering Committee to identify some preliminary timelines and milestone goals for this first phase of planning.

As you know, there is both great urgency and great need for planning and actions, so I urge you to begin your important work as soon as possible.

I thank you for your service as we navigate through this difficult time.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Jones  
Chancellor