



**DARE TO DO MORE**

July 15, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

I wanted to share with you our next steps as we look ahead to the Fall. As you may know, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic the CUNY Board of Trustees on Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup> approved the University's decision to "extend the offering of its academic courses and programs for as many of its academic courses and support services as is reasonably practicable, in an online modality and remote format for the Fall Semester 2020..." ([Board of Trustees Resolution, 7/9/20](#))

I have discussed this with our incoming president, Kenneth Adams, and we are both fully supportive of this decision. At LaGuardia we will, except in extremely limited circumstances, continue to educate our students and deliver our support services online. As we consider bringing limited numbers of students, faculty and staff to campus, our paramount concern is, and will remain, the health and safety of all members of our community. And, as we continue to confront the very real health consequence of our decisions, we must ensure that our students maintain academic momentum and that we apply an equity lens to all of our decisions and actions.

We are now intensifying our planning to have **extremely limited** classes, programs and personnel on campus. These would be for courses that cannot be effectively delivered at a distance, such as those courses which are highly experiential, or require physically being on campus and/or require in-person instruction because of regulatory requirements, such as for certain health-related training. For non-academic programs, we anticipate that the only programs physically on campus will be those that involve some form of tangible exchange, such as food pantries.

To ensure that we prioritize our community's well-being, six weeks ago I created a Return to Campus Planning Group that has considered the vast range of issues involved. This group was asked to identify the issues and questions we will need to address as we consider any return of people to campus. I have attached a copy of their report and thank the members of the Committee, and the chair, Oswald Fraser, for their contribution.

As our next step, I am constituting a Return to Campus Operational Task Force, comprised of individuals from across the college who will immerse themselves in the detailed planning and implementation needed to bring limited students, faculty and staff to our campus at some point. This group, includes college faculty, staff, labor and governance representatives, and will consider how to operationalize the issues that were advanced by the Planning Group, while adhering to city, state and University-wide directives. I have attached the list of members of this Task Force, as well as the



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letter where I establish the Task Force's role and responsibilities. I thank them, in advance, for their important work.

We are committed to ensuring everyone's health and safety, while meeting our student's needs and hunger to learn and earn a degree. We are an instrumental part of the rebuilding of New York and as we address the pandemic and the resulting economic damage, I know we will, as is LaGuardia, rise to the moment.

Thank you,

Paul

**Attachments:**

- [Planning Task Force Report](#)
- [Return to Campus Operational Task Force Committee](#)
- [LaGuardia's Return to Campus Operational Task Force](#)