

Dear Colleagues,

As you know, President Adams has asked me to convene a Fall 2021 Planning Committee to respond to the Chancellor's call (1/5/21 email to CUNY community) to plan for a partial return to in-person instruction and support services in time for the start of classes in Fall 2021.

With the health and safety of everyone in our community as a top priority, and with recognition that circumstances are evolving and continued guidance from public health authorities and the CUNY central office will inform our actions, we are considering which programs and services might return to campus. We are at the first stage of exploring, under conditions that place a priority on health and safety, the learning and work that can occur on campus, and the capital investments needed to maintain a campus operation with greater density, while we also examine what's needed to deliver online teaching and support services.

As one scenario, we are planning for 25% of course sections returning to the campus. This number is based on several factors, perhaps most importantly the availability of space given that social distancing must be maintained. Our Committee is working closely with the College Reopening Committee, constituted last year and chaired by Denise Gomez, to ensure safety protocols are in place as more people return to campus. For information on the college's Re-Opening Plan go to https://www.laguardia.edu/reopening-plan/

Working with academic chairs, we are using the 25% figure to create a schedule of classes, including hybrid and fully online classes. For the in-person sessions of hybrid classes, the number of students in a classroom will conform to social distance guidelines (generally 1/3 the number of students). The Committee is working with ACE directors to make plans for their instructional programs. In addition, the Committee is working with Divisional staff to plan for students returning to campus and what's needed to support their success.

We will continue to regularly provide updates as the plans become clearer. In the meantime, if you have questions, please feel free to contact me directly. Best, Paul

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