

**Covid-19 Committee**  
**Thursday, January 14, 2021**  
**Minutes**

Agenda

1. Covid Status

Currently the virus is at an all time high. Rhonda St. Columbia indicated that she had had 11 cases from January 1-14 which is high for the College. Based on the high transmission rates in the state and region it is recommended that a vigilant effort to enforce safety protocols.

Wear a mask, properly. Be sure to cover your face and your nose.

Practice social distancing, at least six feet apart (that is about two arms lengths).

Wash your hands frequently and/or use sanitizers.

Clean your workspace and objects every time these are used.

If you need PPE supplies ask the building or campus custodian. If they are unsure about supplies it is fine to email David Dunnigan.

The 80-hour continuation, comprehensive covid leave is still available for employees but there are conditions a person must meet to receive it. It is important even after is vaccinated for them to wear a mask. No one is sure how long it takes for the vaccine to take effect. You may still be able to spread the virus to others, you may be asymptomatic and infected.

2. Vaccine Readiness

The Committee discussed the need to be ready to for employees desiring to have the COVID-19 vaccination. Our employees are in group 1b which is supposed to begin unfolding next Monday according Governor Asa Hutchison. However, all of this is dependent on how many units of the vaccine local pharmacies distributing the vaccine receive.

Stuttgart-Kim Kirby has contacted Koker-Hampton and they have application forms for appointments. DeWitt-Kim Kirby has contacted Dean's Pharmacy and they will come to campus to vaccinate employees.

Helena-Rhonda St. Columbia has contacted Hickory Hill Pharmacy and submitted about 38 names of people interested in being vaccinated. Right now, supplies are limited and she is unsure if they will be able to come to campus employees may have to go there to get vaccinated.

No campus has a specific date for the vaccinations and there is not much information at this point related to how long we may have to wait for the vaccine.

It was mentioned that both the CDC and WHO recommend that those who have had the coronavirus go ahead and get the vaccine. There does seem to be at least a three-month immunity but right now it is uncertain how long that immunity lasts for each person.

3. Phase IV

Kim Kirby chairs the Phase IV Reopening Committee. The group has met several times and at the most recent meeting, they decided to adopt the Arkansas Department of Health reopening date of March 1. Initially, the reopening date was January 31.

The Committee is hoping things will rerun to some normalcy in the summer and tentative reservations are being made. The campus centers are closed for public events. It is likely that the group will reassess some time in February.

#### 4. Academic Concerns

Student are still being asked to clean their work space. Dr. King shared a poster reminding students about the importance of cleaning their desk space. It is attached to this email.

Enrollment is seriously low. The average drop in enrollment for community colleges for fall 2020 was - 21.0%. PCCUA's drop was closer to -29%. Not only have we had issues with declining enrollment because of the coronavirus, many students have little access to computers, even though we do provide these. Nation-wide, it is estimated that les that 20% of students in the US have laptops and high-speed reliable internet. This spring the numbers are far lower than usual. It is likely because of the virus and other Covid concerns that summer school will be much like last summer.

#### 5. Online Notes

Michelle Waites shared that she had been working on the University System compliance reports. She also mentioned she has been helping with Project One because all training will take place through BlackBoard.

#### 6. Clean-up Classroom Flyer

Christina Garner created a flyer to use with MLT/Phlebotomy students. Anyone is welcome to use it and if you need Linda Miller to make colored copies for you, email her. A copy is on the next page. This is perfect to post in your classroom to remind students to clean the area where they sit.

#### 7. Screening Posters

Kim Kirby mentioned that we were going to redo the screening posters over the holidays. The survey questions remain the same but the high-risk areas change. Dr. King will get this survey redone and add some color to the poster.

Dr. King shared some helpful Covid sites.

<https://governor.arkansas.gov/>

<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/>

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c2ef4a4fcbe5458fbf2e48a21e4fece9>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/colleges-universities/considerations.html>

This is the table which was problematic. It shows the very serious enrollment drop, especially this fall. We must do something about enrollment.

PCC Fall Enrollments, 2013-20							
2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
2,013	1,797	1,661	1,749	1,636	1,522	1,540	1,093
Source: Arkansas Dept. of Higher Education Annual Enrollment Reports, 2013-20							



Did you wipe down your desk and/or computer?

**DO YOUR PART & STOP THE SPREAD!**