



April 19, 2021

Dear Heidelberg Students:

After the unfortunate vaccination disruption on our campus caused by the FDA/CDC pause on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine last week, we still strongly encourage all students (and employees) to get vaccinated against COVID-19. The two-shot 21-day Pfizer and the two-shot 28-day Moderna vaccines are excellent. Please schedule them in your home towns!

The good news is that the CDC reports that vaccination counts are rising in our country. Nationally, 39.5% have received one dose and 25.4% have been fully vaccinated. In Ohio, 37.4% have received one dose and 26.2% have been fully vaccinated.

The bad news is that new variants threaten us with more surges in about 20 states. Ohio's COVID 7-day running positivity rate is holding at 4.4% as hospitalizations and ICU admissions continue to rise. Our county is still Red. The Heidelberg cumulative positivity rate has ticked up to 0.87% and we have had 6 students test positive in the past 9 days. Please see our updated www.heidelberg.edu/dashboard.

We celebrate the success of Student Princes at the same time.

Congratulations to about 50 students who presented their own research at Heidelberg's 28th Annual Minds@Work Student Research Conference last Tuesday! I was thrilled to see five outstanding presentations virtually and to attend the excellent keynote address by Dr. Ben Pugno from Columbus State Community College.

Congratulations to the 27 new members of the first-generation college students Tri-Alpha National Honor Society who were inducted last Thursday! A few of these inductees are your faculty and staff supporters too. We now have about 100 Heidelberg Tri-Alpha members.

Congratulations to the Heidelberg Team that partnered with the Tiffin-Seneca United Way to conduct a very successful Tiffin Food Drive on Saturday! We have a significant food shortage and child nourishment problem in our county and town. Kudos to Chaplain Paul Stark and Ms. Julie Arnold for leading this community service work with student leadership.

I encourage all students to visit our annual Fresh Check Day tomorrow from 11am to 1pm all over campus. The purpose is to help students find productive ways to handle mental health issues through the end of the semester. There will be peer-to-peer messaging, interactive booths, entertainment, prizes, and free food.

Finally, we should all recognize and appreciate National Administrative Professionals Day on Wednesday. After my college graduation centuries ago, I worked on a house building crew in the Oregon mountains for about six months. Soon thereafter, my first professional opportunity was a secretary job at a publishing company in Boston. Please say thanks to someone you know who does great work in these important campus jobs!

Respectfully,

Rob Huntington
President