



October 19, 2020

Dear Heidelberg Students:

Congratulations to everyone on two successful weeks of academic, cocurricular, and extracurricular activities on campus. All of us pulling together for the greater community is a great thing for each one of us!

As the weather gets colder and rainier, we will spend more and more time indoors. That means we must be more vigilant about health and safety protocols. Please use face masks, maintain physical distancing, gather in groups less than 10, wash hands often, and submit daily health self-evaluations. Get your free flu shots too! All of these measures will help.

The Ohio National Guard was here on Friday to provide free COVID-19 PCR campus surveillance testing. All students, faculty and staff were encouraged to test and 337 of us tested, a day record for our campus population. That is excellent. Anyone who tested can access their lab results on their smartphones by simply texting "MAKO" to 66349 or by going to <http://mako.luminatehealth.com>. I was delighted to get tested again along with my boss, Ms. Kathy Geier, the Chair of the Heidelberg Board of Trustees, who visited our campus on Friday. We both received our test results ... "Not Detected" ... which is good and reassuring. Kathy is an outstanding leader of our Board.

We had 1 positive out of 222 students who tested. We had 0 positives from 115 faculty and staff who tested. Our 0.3% positivity rate on Friday is well below the current Ohio positivity rate of about 4.7%.

I was excited to receive the Parkhurst Dining announcement on Friday about their Online Ordering apps for several new food concepts. Eating at the Berg keeps getting better and easier!

My campus walk arounds this weekend were very quiet. Not a lot of students or anyone out and about. The highlight for me was looking through a door window into Seiberling Gym yesterday afternoon and seeing the Women's Basketball Team running Athletics Phase 1 drills ... with lots of positive energy and team excitement in masks, properly distanced, and well below the gym's posted occupancy capacity. I hope that all student classes, teams, and groups are reconnecting safely and engaging successfully now.

The U.S. Election is only 15 days away. Please vote as an active citizen.

With only 33 days until Thanksgiving Break, let us all keep going together with our own and everyone's best health and interests in mind!

Respectfully,

Rob Huntington  
President