



April 12, 2021

Dear Heidelberg Students:

We must remain extra strong against the surging COVID-19 virus again and we should all feel confident about getting through this pandemic together successfully.

Governor Mike DeWine reported on Friday that positive cases, hospitalizations, and ICU admissions are all rising in Ohio now. It is worse in Michigan. The Ohio COVID 7-day running positivity rate has ticked up to 4.6% and Seneca County remains on Red Alert. Heidelberg's cumulative campus positivity rate is still only 0.86% but we have had four student positives in the last six days. Please click here to see our [www.heidelberg.edu/dashboard](http://www.heidelberg.edu/dashboard).

At the same time, our optimism is fueled by the accelerating pace of vaccinations. The CDC reports that 35.7% of the American population has received one dose and 21.5% have been fully vaccinated. In Ohio, those figures are 34.7% and 21.6% respectively. Beginning with the Ohio National Guard on Wednesday and continuing in the Stoner Center today, we have vaccinated about 300 students. That is great!

There are many wonderful things happening at your University this week.

I encourage all students not presenting at *Heidelberg's 28th Annual Minds at Work Student Research Conference* tomorrow to attend a virtual session by one of your friends. See the SRC schedule here [Minds@Work SRC Schedule](#).

On Thursday from 11am to 12pm, student leadership is hosting a virtual Student Diversity Town Hall. This is part of our very important ongoing campus community dialogue about diversity, equity, and inclusion. See the link for that zoom registration [HERE](#).

Congratulations to the Student Princes football team for their super exciting winning touchdown with only 34 seconds left in the game against the ONU Polar Bears on Friday night! There is nothing quite like college football in April. Good luck against the UMU Purple Raiders for the OAC Championship this Friday night in Alliance!

Then on Saturday from 1-3pm, the MLK, Jr. Day On! Team and the Tiffin-Seneca United Way are

co-sponsoring the Tiffin Food Drive to collect much-needed food donations in our community for our community. Please email Ms. Julie Arnold at [jarnold3@heidelberg.edu](mailto:jarnold3@heidelberg.edu) if interested. See the link for more information [Here](#).

The France Residence Hall Restoration & Renovation project is 99.9% done. Our four Greek women and one mixed gender societies are moving into their new halls this month. At 96-years old, France looks spectacular!

As a member of the Ohio Athletic Conference Search Committee, we were thrilled to announce last Tuesday that Ms. Sarah Otey will become the new OAC Commissioner when Mr. Tim Gleason retires after 30 outstanding years in this role at the end of June. Ms. Otey graduated from Washington and Lee University with high academic honors and athletic awards in 2007. She has worked at the NCAA national office in several key director roles over the past nine years. Please see this link to our OAC announcement about Sarah Otey [www.oac.org](http://www.oac.org).

Despite our shared exhaustion and utter frustration with all things about this pandemic, we should feel grateful for the excellent educational activities, events, and opportunities that continue unfolding for Student Princes this academic year. Only three weeks of classes and one week of finals to go!

Respectfully,

Rob Huntington  
President