



November 30, 2020

Dear Heidelberg Students:

I hope that all of you and your families enjoyed a full Thanksgiving week break together. If it was anything like our family time (only three of us the entire week), then it was relatively quiet, very restful, and an opportunity to recharge. I encourage all students to embrace their last two weeks of online courses and projects before final exams.

We should all feel good about finishing fall semester strong and successfully!

As we have communicated previously, our plan is to reopen residentially (with a remote learning option) on January 18, 2020, with winter sports student-athletes returning two weeks earlier to begin practice. All students will be required to confirm a "negative" COVID-19 test right before their return to campus and we will provide those test kits with instructions later.

I participated in a conference call that Ohio Governor Mike DeWine held with about 50 private college and university presidents last Wednesday night. It was very uplifting to hear Governor DeWine's tremendous appreciation for our collective efforts on behalf of our students this fall. He knows how hard this pandemic has been on everyone at every campus. He understands and supports the spring semester reopening plans that we all shared with him and his team. While he expressed optimism about the coming vaccine, the Governor described his great worry about the "very bad situation" that Ohio now faces as we enter three incredibly challenging months of COVID risk. The Ohio 7-day running positivity rate is now 14.2%. Please continue to do your part in mitigating the COVID risk everywhere.

Heidelberg is working hard in preparation for welcoming all students back to campus in January.

Meanwhile, I wish all of you good luck on your final exams and papers!

Respectfully,

Rob Huntington
President