Plans for fall return to campus show commitment to health, safety[1]

Just as the University of Colorado's four campuses vary in significant ways, so do their plans for launching fall returns by faculty, staff and students. What those plans share is a detail-oriented commitment to the health and safety of the CU community.
[2]

That message was delivered to the Board of Regents by campus chancellors and members of their leadership teams during Wednesday morning's special meeting, which was held remotely via Zoom and livestreamed. A recording of the meeting will be posted here[3].

"Opening up in the fall is possible thanks to the hard work of everyone involved," said Board of Regents Chair Glen Gallegos.
[4]

President Mark Kennedy also praised the effort of leadership, faculty and staff across the campuses as they gear up for next month's launch of the fall semester.

"Everyone is taking great concern for the health and safety of our faculty, staff and students," Kennedy said. "I hope (board members) feel more comforted that we're taking the challenge of back-to-fall very seriously."

Detailed fall return plans are posted at these websites:
CU Boulder: https://www.colorado.edu/roadmap/[5] UCCS: https://returnto.uccs.edu/[6] CU Denver: https://www.ucdenver.edu/safe-return-to-campus-fall-2020[7] CU Anschutz: https://www.cuanschutz.edu/coronavirus/return-to-campus[8]
Across the system, protocols already have been rolling out in recent weeks. The expectations for faculty and staff include pre-return training, daily health surveys and temperature taking, mandatory mask-wearing and reduced capacity in offices, classrooms and laboratories.

For students, chancellors are stressing education and personal responsibility. CU Boulder will remind students to "Protect our herd," while UCCS pledges to "Protect the pride."
[9]

"We are committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity for on-campus learning," said CU Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano. Large lectures are out; an education experience relying on "a combination of modalities" is in. Some teaching and learning will be done in person, some via remote, and some a combination.

"Faculty need to be prepared to change modality over the course of the semester," DiStefano said.

The chancellor said there's no absolute formula for determining when to move between phases. Leadership will be monitoring several factors that would influence a decision, including a rise in state or local COVID-19 cases, campus density and violations of social distancing rules. He and other leaders stressed that the knowledge gained and preparation undertaken since March, when the coronavirus pandemic necessitated a swift closure, have positioned CU in a much greater state of readiness.

Research enterprises are up and running at CU Boulder, DiStefano said, and the experience of researchers in the coming weeks will help inform the rest of the campus community as it follows.

Research also has returned to the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, said Chancellor Don Elliman, who called his campus CU's "canary in the coal mine, because we are up and running." All clinicians are back in practice as well, and nearly 1,000 students already have returned to campus.
[10]

"We are very fortunate that we don't have the issues of dormitories and athletics to worry about," Elliman said.

CU Denver's status as a commuter campus with only one dorm building means a higher percentage of students who rely on public transit, noted Chancellor Michelle Marks. On decision-making, CU Denver also must work closely with the two other institutions sharing downtown's Auraria Campus.
[11]

At CU Denver, Marks said about one-quarter of classes will be in-person or a hybrid of in-person and online; three-quarters will be virtual learning and online.

At UCCS, the campus this week began its first of three phases of returning, said Chancellor Venkat Reddy, as select infrastructure resumed operations. The second phase, launching July 27, will mark the return of faculty and staff, while Aug. 10's third phase will see student services ramping up.
[12]

Regent Chance Hill asked about plans following the Thanksgiving break. While CU Boulder previously announced that students will move to online learning and not return to campus to complete the fall after the holiday, Reddy said UCCS "intends to give our students the complete experience." Still, the campus will maintain the option of moving to remote-only learning after Thanksgiving. "We will evaluate as time goes by."

Regent Jack Kroll, also a staff member at CU Boulder, asked specifically about considerations regarding the return of staff to campuses. Marks said that among faculty and staff at CU Denver, "There truly is a lot of anxiety about returning to campus."
[13]

Pat O'Rourke, interim executive vice chancellor and chief operating officer at CU Boulder, said leadership continues to stress that "if people can work remotely effectively, we want to continue to enable them to do that." At CU Boulder, each working unit has been asked to do an analysis of which personnel are needed on campus and when.

Fly me to the moon, and far beyond[14]

Coursera's full course catalog open to CU through 2020[15]
[16]

The CU on Coursera[17] learning program has grown substantially this month: Besides over 170 University of Colorado courses and specializations already available, the program now offers access to Coursera's top courses and specializations. The free, expanded access is available to all CU faculty, staff and students through the end of 2020.

The Coursera platform offers 4,560 courses from 50 countries, and this extensive catalog of courses is now easier than ever to access. With CU on Coursera, you'll find the familiar collections of courses from the four CU campuses plus curated collections from Coursera's global university and corporate partners. From personal well-being to Python, this program has something you've been looking for.

Interested faculty, staff and students who are not yet signed up for the program can still do so and take advantage of the extensive and diverse learning opportunities.

Log in to your campus portal and you'll find CU on Coursera in the "Training" section. Boulder students can search "Coursera" in BuffPortal.

Tuition Assistance Benefit applications open Aug. 3[18]
[19]

As the University of Colorado's 2020-21 academic year approaches, it's time to start thinking about enrolling in undergraduate and graduate courses using the Tuition Assistance Benefit. Fall 2020 applications will open Aug. 3 for all campuses.

Each academic year (fall through summer), eligible employees can save on up to nine credits on eligible courses on any CU campus. Their spouses or dependents[20] have several options to save on tuition costs.

Employees can allow certain dependents to use their Tuition Assistance Benefit. Whoever uses the benefit first in the current academic year will be allotted the benefit for the entire academic year. If an employee uses the benefit in the fall, their dependent cannot then use it in the spring and vice versa.

The Tuition Assistance Benefit page[21] highlights the rules, deadlines and application instructions. The Tuition Assistance Benefit guide[22] provides a high-level, step-by-step overview of the process, but keep in mind application and registration deadlines vary by your campus of registration.
CU Boulder[23] Course registration: Employees: First day of class for each specific course after Aug. 24, 2020 Dependents: On their designated campus registration day Tuition Assistance Benefit application: By Sept. 11, 2020 CU Denver/CU Anschutz[24] Course registration: Employees: First day of class for each specific course after Aug. 17, 2020 Dependents: On their designated campus registration day Tuition Assistance Benefit application: By Sept. 2, 2020 CU Colorado Springs[25] Course registration: Employees: Starting Aug. 24, 2020 Dependents: On their designated campus registration day Tuition Assistance Benefit application: By Sept. 10, 2020
Tuition Assistance Benefit dependents can take courses on the employee's "home" CU campus (their campus of employment), or take courses at other CU campuses. The dependent benefit at other CU campuses will instead be a $270 per credit hour for up to nine credits per academic year (fall through summer), to apply toward eligible courses.

Some exclusions apply for employees and dependents, so please review the program page[21] and each campus's requirements closely.

Finally, all users should be aware that they are responsible for paying student fees and that this benefit may be subject to taxation. You can find out more on the dedicated Tuition Assistance Benefit taxation web page[26] for this benefit.

Learn more about your Tuition Assistance Benefit[20].

Roy Parker named director of BioFrontiers [27]

Monologue for a crisis [28]

UCCS now a founding member of the Space ISAC [29]

Webinar addresses questions, concerns about staff units returning to campus[30]

School of Medicine, UCHealth recruiting patients for COVID-19 vaccine trial[31]

Banks named associate vice chancellor and dean of students [32]

How Fredericks helped change Washington football team's name [33]

Peterson appointed as CU Nursing's Psychiatric Mental Health Endowed Professor [34]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/plans-fall-return-campus-show-commitment-health-safety[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/reg_gallegos.jpg[3] https://cu.new.swagit.com/views/92/[4] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/reg_kennedy.jpg[5] https://www.colorado.edu/roadmap/[6] https://returnto.uccs.edu/[7] https://www.ucdenver.edu/safe-return-to-campus-fall-2020[8] https://www.cuanschutz.edu/coronavirus/return-to-campus[9] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/reg_distefano.jpg[10] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/reg_elliman.jpg[11] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/reg_marks.jpg[12] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/reg_reddy.jpg[13] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/reg_orourke.jpg[14] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/fly-me-moon-and-far-beyond[15] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/coursera-s-full-course-catalog-open-cu-through-2020[16] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/cu-coursera_top.jpg[17] https://coursera.org/programs/cu-on-coursera-sqyue[18] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/tuition-assistance-benefit-applications-open-aug-3[19] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/tuition-assistance_top.jpg[20] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits-wellness/current-employee/tuition-assistance/dependent-options[21] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits-wellness/current-employee/tuition-assistance[22] https://www.cu.edu/docs/tuition-assistance-benefit-guide[23] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits-wellness/current-employee/tuition-assistance/cu-boulder[24] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits-wellness/current-employee/tuition-assistance/cu-denveranschutz[25] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits-wellness/current-employee/tuition-assistance/uccs[26] https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits-wellness/current-employee/tuition-assistance/taxes[27] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/roy-parker-named-director-biofrontiers[28] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/monologue-crisis[29] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/uccs-now-founding-member-space-isac[30] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/webinar-addresses-questions-concerns-about-staff-units-returning-campus[31] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/school-medicine-uchealth-recruiting-patients-covid-19-vaccine-trial[32] https://connections.cu.edu/people/banks-named-associate-vice-chancellor-and-dean-students[33] https://connections.cu.edu/people/how-fredericks-helped-change-washington-football-team-s-name[34] https://connections.cu.edu/people/peterson-appointed-cu-nursing-s-psychiatric-mental-health-endowed-professor