Last week, Human Resources launched this newsletter to keep you engaged and informed. We will update you in this space about resources, programs, what your fellow employees are up to, and what you need to know as we prepare to reopen campus and welcome back our students for the Fall 2020 semester.

5 Things You Should Know Before Returning to Campus

1. While we are preparing to reopen the campus, there seem to be some misunderstandings about what this means for staff returning to their offices. Our message is clear: With limited exceptions, if your job allows you to work remotely, we expect you to continue to work remotely. If you are unsure, please check with your supervisor.

2. Department plans are due to Paul Wykes by July 31. These plans detail how departments will adapt to the policies and protocols necessary to reduce the risk of contracting the coronavirus, and should include procedures for sanitation, use of common areas and equipment, and staggered hours, if necessary. Ask your supervisor about your department plan and how it will affect your work situation.

3. In early August, before students return, all Clark employees who will be working on the campus must undergo a COVID-19 test that will be administered at Clark. Employees will continue to be tested on a biweekly basis; some employees who have frequent interactions with students will be tested weekly. Details of the testing program will be forthcoming.

4. All members of the Clark community — students, faculty, and staff — are encouraged to download the CoVerified app for their smartphone. This app allows users to
perform a daily health assessment, schedule their COVID-19 testing time, view their test results, and provide names for contact tracing, if necessary. This is the only app integrated with the Broad Institute, which will provide testing services to our campus community. The app is HIPAA-compliant and Clark will have specific policies and procedures around who will have access to protected health information. A desktop version of CoVerify is also available.

5. And finally, words cannot express the University leadership’s gratitude for your commitment, cooperation, understanding, and, most importantly, your patience as we plan to welcome our students to a new semester in complex and challenging times. You have shown incredible loyalty and commitment to Clark, and your dynamic and creative efforts to support our students and colleagues truly represents Clark’s spirit of challenging convention. As always, thank you for all you do for Clark University!

   — David Everitt, Director of Human Resources

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**Sign Your Clark Commitment**

All staff, faculty, and students returning to campus this fall must sign The Clark Commitment. The responsibilities outlined in the Commitment are crucial to the health and safety of everyone at Clark, and it is imperative that anyone who plans to study or work on campus be prepared to live up to them. Every member of the Clark community must electronically sign their commitment no later than Monday, August 10. Only those who do so will be allowed to return to campus for study or work.

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**Massachusetts Travel Advisory**

We are still in the summer months, which for many means travel. But if you’re not doing a staycation this year, be aware of Gov. Charlie Baker’s new travel order for those visiting or reentering Massachusetts. The order, which goes into effect on August 1, mandates that anyone entering Massachusetts from any of the so-called higher-risk states (which exempts Rhode Island, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and New York) must quarantine for 14 days or present proof of a negative COVID test administered within 72 hours prior to their arrival in Massachusetts. Nervous parents have been contacting Clark about how the protocol will affect their move-in day; fortunately, the order includes several exemptions, including for parents and guardians moving a child to college. If they drop off their child and leave the state within the same day, they are not subject to quarantine or proof of a negative test. Read the full travel order here.
Staff Town Hall

President David Fithian is holding the next Staff Town Hall on Thursday, June 30, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. You should already have received a Zoom invitation. Please join us to get an update from President Fithian and other senior leaders, as well as responses to questions that were submitted in advance.

Some Hot Summer Reading

Clark professors Ed Carr and Rob Johnston have offered a detailed and pointed critique of a recent blog post by NYU professor Scott Galloway, whose widely circulated essay about the future of higher education, they contest, is built on shaky data and unsupported claims. We won’t steal our professors’ righteous thunder by excerpting their response here, but we do encourage you to give it a read.

TIAA August Webinars

TIAA is planning a series of webinars in August on a variety of financial topics. These webinars are free and open to all, even if you do not have a retirement account with TIAA.

- Social Security for Married Couples — August 11 at noon
- 2020 Investment outlook – post coronavirus recovery — August 11 at 3 p.m.

Find a full schedule and register here.

Resources and Opportunities

- Learn about employment opportunities Clark by visiting the Job Opportunities page on the Office of Human Resources website.
- Clark’s Employee Assistance Program provides confidential, free assessments and referral services for legal and financial consultations, child care, crisis support, mental
health treatment, lifestyle coaching, substance abuse treatment, and more. Visit New Directions Behavioral Health; our company code is “Clark University.”

• The resources for employees site features policies, office reopening guidelines, and a recording of the summer training for returning employees. The site also houses COVID-19 symptom checker and safety data sheets. New information is added frequently, so check back often.

• The Healthy Clark website and our new Campus Reopening Questions site contain answers to many of the most frequently asked questions about our fall plans.