

## Meet & Confer – September 16th, 2021 8AM

Dr. Bruce Jarrell  
Dr. Roger Ward  
Dr. Erin Golembewski  
Dr. Flavius Lilly  
Dr. Dawn Rhodes

### Graduate Student Reps:

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### Notes from the meeting

#### Agenda

- I. Welcome
- II. Old Business
  - A. Parking, educational costs and costs of attendance
    1. Summary on conversation with Patricia Scott. She is looking into the possibility of 1) parking fees coming directly out of the PI's grant and 2) the Graduate School subsidizing parking fees
    2. She also explained the cost of attendance estimates that are used to make loan offers, as well as the budget increase request and budget review processes. Requested for this information to be added to the website for transparency and ease of use
- III. New Business
  - A. COVID-19 Guidelines on Campus
    1. New masking requirements
      - a) Timeline for and any anticipated difficulties acquiring KN95 masks for students?
      - b) KN95s will be required for fully vaccinated students "when participating in classroom and training activities". Request for clarification on "training activities". Does this include working in a research lab?
        - (1) Was not intended to cover research labs; more about classrooms where people are stationary in large groups
        - (2) Masks reduce the quarantine requirement if someone in the group tests positive
        - (3) Wearing KN95s in labs will be "highly encouraged"
        - (4) Probably will extend to seminars
        - (5) Students will be provided with "multiple" KN95s each
          - (a) Dr. Golembewski has 5 masks for unvaccinated students (who have valid exemption) & students on

their first dose of the vaccine regimen, 2 masks for fully vaccinated students

(6) Talked a lot about communication

(a) Dr. Ward says we have a “responsibility” to help them communicate these things to students

(b) Discussed flyers, me (Sydney) emailing students instead of them Grad Gazette, Twitter, etc.

2. Testing

a) Has surveillance testing been considered? Particularly with a higher frequency for unvaccinated individuals, as is required at other USM institutions

(1) Dr. Jarrell said surveillance testing does happen for students in clinical settings, but even UMMS doesn't have a surveillance testing regime

(2) Not necessary, is a large resource sink

(3) Booster shots?

(a) No plans now to reopen the SMC Campus Center as a vaccination site

(b) They said they expect they'll suggest that people go to drug stores/student health if they want the booster

3. Positivity rate on campus ()

a) Request for a re-evaluation of a “COVID-19 Dashboard” or similar tracking and reporting system so the UMB community can be informed of COVID-19 cases on campus

(1) They were not in favor of such a system; said it is just misleading because not everyone calls the hotline

(2) Emphasized that there has been no document COVID spread on campus

IV. Updates (to be read ahead of time by all)

A. GSA Events & Announcements

1. Graduate School Orientation events went well! Incoming students and rising second years were excited and grateful to be together on campus
2. The GSA is considering moving our general body meetings to a hybrid online/in-person format soon