Greetings all,

Just a quick note to wish you all a Happy Easter. I know that this has been an extraordinary spring semester and I appreciate how all of you have contributed to our teaching, research, and Extension missions through distance education methods that you had not planned to use.

Please take the time to enjoy the Easter weekend with family. I hope to continue providing more updates once we return on how we will address our summer and fall semester.

Take care,
Cliff

**Key website that provide current information in response to COVID-19:**

Brazos County Health District: [http://www.brazoshealth.org/node/87](http://www.brazoshealth.org/node/87)
TAMU FAQ page: [https://www.tamu.edu/coronavirus/#FAQ](https://www.tamu.edu/coronavirus/#FAQ)
COALS: [https://aglifesciences.tamu.edu/covid19/](https://aglifesciences.tamu.edu/covid19/)
Extension: [https://texashelp.tamu.edu/](https://texashelp.tamu.edu/)
Vice President for Research: [https://vpr.tamu.edu/covid-19](https://vpr.tamu.edu/covid-19)
Texas Health & Human Services: [https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/](https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/)
2020-2021 Parking Permit
Registration – Renewal

April 8 – July 8, 2020
Permits will be mailed beginning July 17th
To register:
https://transport.tamu.edu/Parking/FAQpermit.aspx
Go to – “HOW” - How Do I Register?
Library Services for AgriLife Research

Don't forget to join us online at noon on April 14 for a WebEx presentation and Q&A session with Texas A&M University Libraries.

Library Services for AgriLife Research

This presentation will share how the University Libraries can support AgriLife research efforts throughout the research lifecycle. We will share specifically about services that will help you plan, manage, publish, preserve, and measure the impact of your research. Presenters will first provide a brief overview of these services and later invite questions and discussion among participants in order to identify the specific needs of AgriLife researchers.

Presenters:

- Bruce Herbert, Director of the Office of Scholarly Communications, Texas A&M University Libraries
- John Watts, Director of Research Data Management Services, Texas A&M University Libraries
- Carolyn Jackson, Liaison Librarian, Texas A&M University Libraries

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 from noon-1:00pm

Location: WebEx (online)

Click to RSVP for the CERS April Seminar

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Grants Team with the AgriLife Research Office of Corporate Engagement and Research Support (CERS).
April 7, 2020

TO: Texas A&M AgriLife

SUBJECT: AgriLife Human Resources – Working Remotely, Together!

Please share with appropriate staff.

Few of us are fulfilling our job responsibilities the way we did it a month ago. Our changing routine may include working remotely, online teaching, virtual meetings, teleconferences and many other formats.

Throughout this process, we are finding different ways to complete tasks and innovate managing our daily schedules alongside household members. While some of us may have a dedicated workspace in our remote locations, others are ‘borrowing’ kitchen tables, counters, couches or corners of a room to set up our work areas. In the absence of a designated space, consider having a tote bag or bookcase shelf where you can store/access your work resources easily for set up each day.

Whatever your current work situation or location, we all share a common goal of keeping ourselves and our families safe while still fulfilling our job responsibilities.

Here are some free learning resources that you might find helpful.

Talk with the expert you know ….

Choose a colleague to set up an informal mentor experience. Find someone who has a specific skill or knowledge you have always admired or wanted to learn more about. Be specific about the learning you are seeking and set a timeline to start/end the mentoring relationship. Tools for distance mentoring can include: email, phone calls, Skype, blogs, virtual book studies or online meetings.

Top up your skills or learn something new ….

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are free online courses available for anyone to enroll. MOOCs provide an affordable and flexible way to learn new skills, advance your career and deliver quality educational experiences at scale. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_MOOC_providers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_MOOC_providers)

Links to Online learning

*TrainTraq, System-Wide*
Change your TAMUS member to ‘All’ and set the Course Type to ‘Online’. [https://sso.tamus.edu](https://sso.tamus.edu)

*LinkedIn Learning*
Normally subscription only access, LinkedIn Learning is offering 16 free certificate courses for a limited time (no specifics provided on limited) from LinkedInLearning. [https://www.linkedin.com/learning/paths/remote-working-setting-yourself-up-and-your-teams-up-for-success](https://www.linkedin.com/learning/paths/remote-working-setting-yourself-up-and-your-teams-up-for-success)

*Just for Fun*
Tiny Desk Concerts from NPR’s All Songs Considered features your favorite musicians performing at Bob Boilen’s desk in the NPR Music office. [https://www.npr.org/series/tiny-desk-concerts/](https://www.npr.org/series/tiny-desk-concerts/)

Texas A&M AgriLife Human Resources | [http://agrilifeas.tamu.edu/hr/](http://agrilifeas.tamu.edu/hr/)
AOC Deans & Friends –

Last week I mentioned a notification process when a student discloses to a faculty or staff member that they have a known or suspected positive CoVID-19 infection.

If you know of a student who has a known or suspected positive COVID-19 infection, please contact the Office of the Dean of Student Life at studentlife@tamu.edu or by phone at 979.845.3111. This will allow us to contact the student to see if further support is needed.

Please share this notification process with faculty and staff in your respective colleges and units. We are also working to get this included under the “For Faculty/Staff” section of the TAMU COVID-19 FAQs website.

Let me know if you have any questions! Thank you for all that you do for our students and our community.

Cynthia H.

Cynthia L. Hernandez ‘94, Ph.D. | Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Texas A&M University

Some of you asked about students who are unable to keep up with their courses because they are ill, but unable to provide a typical medical excuse because they are unable to see a doctor due to the impact of COVID-19.

This FAQ (below) is now listed in the TAMU COVID-19 FAQs. 
https://www.tamu.edu/coronavirus/#FAQ

What should I do if I am ill and cannot keep up with my courses?

- If you are feeling ill, make an appointment with your healthcare provider. Students can make an appointment at Student Health Services by visiting the website or by calling (979) 458-8310. Please do not show up at a clinic, urgent care or other healthcare facility without calling first. Your provider may need to take special measures to protect other people in the clinic. Telemedicine may also be available, enabling you to consult a provider from home. If possible, request a medical provider’s note to document your illness.

- Contact your instructors to notify them of your illness.

- Personal injury or Illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class may be considered an excused absence under Student Rule 7. The student is responsible for providing documentation substantiating the reason for the absence, including reasons stated in Student Rule, Section 7.2. This documentation must be provided within three business days of the last date of the absence, unless otherwise stated in this rule.

- If your illness is impacting your ability to make progress in your courses and you can’t get in to see a medical provider this form may be used in lieu of a medical confirmation note as required in Student Rule 7 during Spring and Summer 2020 terms only. Please refer to Student Rule 7 for guidance on class attendance and absences. This form must be submitted to the instructor within 2 calendar days of return to class.

Link to the self-explanatory form.

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Mary Bryk, PhD
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs