

PROTECT THE 'NECKS PLAN



**WESTERN ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY**

As the effects of this pandemic impact our friends, families, and world, we must work to protect the health and safety of every member of our campus community.

We will protect ourselves.

We will protect our Leatherneck community.

We will get through this together.

We are Leathernecks!



PROTECT THE 'NECKS PLAN



With the ever-changing conditions surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic, no community can guarantee an environment free from COVID-19, and the measures described in this plan recognize that reality. While much has gone into this effort to protect the WIU community, we trust that all its members — faculty, staff, students and visitors — will take responsibility for their own health and safety and act in a manner that demonstrates respect and consideration for those around them, consistent with the Protect the 'Necks Pledge, described further on page 8.

Protect the 'Necks is WIU's comprehensive plan to keep our University community safe by mitigating the spread of COVID-19. Several committees have worked to develop plans, tools and protocols necessary to ensure the successful return of students, faculty, staff, and campus activities and to help every member of the Leatherneck family stay safe and healthy this fall.

This plan, which represents the measures approved to date, will continue to evolve, driven by the latest science surrounding COVID-19.

TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE WIU COMMUNITY, WE WILL:

1. Expect each individual affiliated with Western Illinois University to assume personal responsibility for themselves, others, and the WIU community.
2. Implement personal health and safety practices and protocols.
3. Offer a range of instructional options for students and faculty.
4. Be flexible, and plan for contingencies.
5. Identify and protect vulnerable members of the WIU community.
6. Enact health safety changes in physical spaces throughout our campuses.
7. Engage our stakeholders with consistent, timely communication and clear guidance.
8. Advance our mission in a safe and responsible way.

PROTECT THE 'NECKS PLAN



Building on the work of a University group formed in February that was tasked to review the COVID-19 pandemic and implement procedures for the remaining part of the spring semester, the **COVID Working Group** was formed in March by Interim President Martin Abraham. This working group continues to develop policies, procedures, guidelines, strategies and tactics that will allow the University to further its educational mission in a safe manner. Many of these individuals lead subcommittees that are comprised of or engaged with dozens of faculty, staff, and outside experts.

Protect the 'Necks Covid Working Group Team Leaders

- Dr. Martin Abraham, Interim President
- Billy Clow, Interim Provost and Vice President
- John Smith, Interim Vice President for Student Services and Director of Beu Health Center
- Dr. Kristi Mindrup, Assistant Vice President for WIU Quad-Cities
- Letisha Trepac, Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs
- Joe Roselieb, Executive Director of Auxiliary Services and Risk Management
- Dr. Angela Lynn, Registrar
- Jeanette Malafa, Assistant to the President for Governmental Relations
- Ketra Roselieb, Executive Director of Personnel and Finance
- Troy Rhoads, Executive Director of Facilities Management
- Rebecca Slater, Executive Director/CIO of University Technology
- Gary Swegan, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management
- Darcie Shinberger, Executive Director of University Communications
- Danielle Surprenant, Director of Athletics



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Return to Work Committee:

- Ketra Roselieb, Executive Director of Personnel and Finance
- John Smith, Interim Vice President for Student Services and Director of Beu Health Center
- Stephanie Kinkaid, Director of Equal Opportunity and Access
- Amelia Hartnett, Director of Human Resources
- Letisha Trepac, Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs
- Joe Roselieb, Executive Director of Auxiliary Services and Risk Management

Athletics Committee:

- Danielle Surprenant, Director of Athletics
- Dr. Mike Waters, Medical Chief of Staff Beu Health Center
- Chad Cerrulo, Head Athletic Trainer WIU Athletics
- Holly Van Vlymen, Athletics Academic Coordinator
- Seth Wickert, Manager of Sports Facilities
- Joe Roselieb, Executive Director of Auxiliary Services and Risk Management
- Jon Minnis, Director of Strength and Conditioning
- Samantha Klingler, Director of Student Development and Success Center

Commencement Planning Committee:

- Dr. Angela Lynn, Registrar
- Joani Wilson, Deputy Registrar
- Billy Clow, Interim Provost and Vice President
- Dr. Kristi Mindrup, Assistant Vice President for WIU Quad-Cities
- Gretchen Sullivan, Graduate School Specialist

Health & Safety Committee:

- Samantha Klingler, Director of Student Development and Success Center
- Eric Arnold, Program Director at the IL Law Enforcement Executive Institute
- Dr. Lea Monahan, Director of School of Nursing
- Dr. Mike Waters, Medical Chief of Staff Beu Health Center
- Jessica Butcher, Assistant Director of Residence Life
- Dr. Mark Mossman, Associate Provost
- Amy Buwick, Director of University Counseling Center
- Dr. Lorette Oden, Dean of Centennial Honors College
- Chad Cerrulo, Head Athletic Trainer WIU Athletics
- Michelle Foster, Assistant Director of Human Resources
- Dr. Russ Morgan, Associate Provost
- Dr. Everett Hamner, Professor-English
- Dr. Jamie Johnson, Professor-Law Enforcement and Justice Administration
- Ashley Katz, Director of University Union
- Dr. Hal Marchand, Professor-Health Sciences and Social Work

Event Guidelines Committee:

- Ashley Katz, University Union
- Dr. Lee Brice, Professor-English
- Diane Cassimire, Assistant Director of Athletics
- Kirk Hare, Building Service Supervisor
- Joan Herbert, Auditorium Technical Director
- Dr. Jeremy Robinett, Professor-RPTA
- Alison Shook, Space Administrator
- Amy Spelman, Director of Alumni Programs
- Rob Wallace, Nurse Practitioner
- Curtis Williams, Director of Student Services Quad-Cities
- Nick Katz, Director of Student Activities

Control Plan Review Committee:

- Joe Roselieb, Executive Director of Auxiliary Services and Risk Management
- John Smith, Interim Vice President for Student Services and Director of Beu Health Center
- Dr. Mike Waters, Medical Chief of Staff Beu Health Center
- Samantha Klingler, Director of Student Development and Success Center
- Eric Arnold, Program Director at the IL Law Enforcement Executive Institute
- Derek Carle, Program Director at the IL Law Enforcement Executive Institute
- Edgar Rodriguez, Director McDonough County Emergency Services Disaster Agency (ESDA)

Facilities Response Committee:

- Joe Roselieb, Executive Director of Auxiliary Services and Risk Management
- Troy Rhoads, Executive Director of Facilities Management
- Neal Thurman, Superintendent of Building Services
- Kirk Hare, Building Service Supervisor
- Andy Daniels, Assistant Superintendent of Building Maintenance
- Rafe Breedlove, Superintendent of Building Maintenance
- Renee Hughes, Assistant Director of Residential Facilities and Conferences
- Natalie Divan, Graphic Design Manager

Academic Continuity Committee:

- Billy Clow, Interim Provost and Vice President
- Dr. Mark Mossman, Associate Provost
- Dr. Kristi Mindrup, Assistant Vice President for WIU Quad-Cities
- Dr. Mike Waters, Medical Chief of Staff Beu Health Center
- Gary Swegan, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management
- Dr. John Elfrink, Dean, College of Business and Technology
- Dr. Lorette Oden, Dean of Centennial Honors College
- Dr. Tara Feld, Associate Dean, College of Business and Technology
- Dr. Angela Lynn, Registrar
- Dr. Christopher Morrow, Chair, Department of English
- Dr. Susan Stewart, Professor-Marketing and Management
- Dr. Buzz Hoon, Dean, College of Fine Arts and Communication
- Dr. Peter Jorgensen, Chairperson, Department of Communication



Internship/Lab, Studio Working Committee:

- Dr. Russ Morgan, Associate Provost
- Dr. Katrina Daytner, Associate Dean, College of Education & Human Services
- Dr. Sue Martinelli Fernandez, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
- Dr. Jeff Brown, Director, School of Music
- Dr. Greg Montalvo, Assistant Dean, College of Education & Human Services
- Dr. Craig Conrad, Dean, College of Business and Technology
- Paul Sweet, Director of Center for Innovation in Teaching and Research (CITR)
- Dr. Jeremy Robinett, Professor-RPTA
- Dr. Amanda Silberer, Chair, Department of Speech Pathology & Audiology
- Gretchen Sullivan, Graduate School Specialist
- Dr. Blair McDonald, Professor-Engineering
- Kat Myers, Chair, Department of Art
- Chris Merrett, Director, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs
- Ian Szechowycz, User Support Services Manager (uTech)



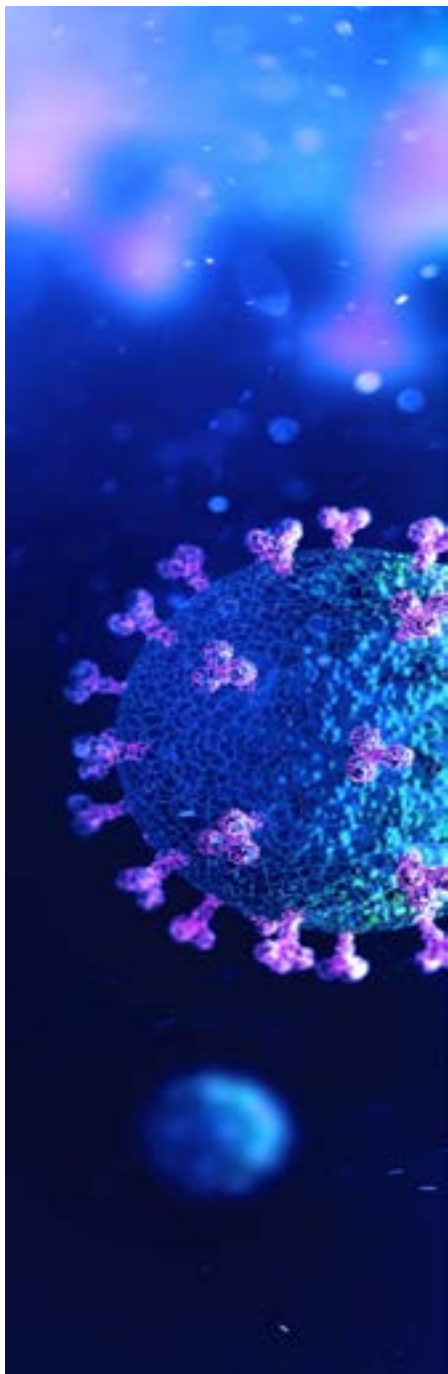
Academic Continuity II Committee:

- Dr. Mark Mossman, Associate Provost
- Dr. Kristi Mindrup, Assistant Vice President for WIU Quad-Cities
- Dr. Angela Lynn, Registrar
- Dr. Jamie Johnson, Professor-Law Enforcement and Justice Administration
- Danielle Surprenant, Director of Athletics
- Dr. Buzz Hoon, Dean, College of Fine Arts and Communication
- Dr. Susan Stewart, Professor-Marketing and Management
- Samantha Klingler, Director of Student Development and Success Center
- Dr. Jeremy Robinett, Professor-RPTA
- Dr. Sue Martinelli Fernandez, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
- Dawn Sweet, Instructional Design and Technology Specialist (CITR)
- Jessica Butcher, Assistant Director of Residence Life
- Dr. Christopher Pynes, Professor-Mathematics and Philosophy
- Gary Swegan, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management

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Guided by information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Illinois State Department of Public Health, the McDonough and Rock Island County health departments, and other organizations, Western Illinois University is developing specific plans that address the unique needs of our university community. WIU is going beyond the guidelines from these state and federal agencies in order to do everything possible to protect those at WIU who are most vulnerable to serious consequences of COVID-19.

Everything we are doing is focused on offering the safest experience for all members of Western Illinois University, and to protect ourselves, protect others, and protect the WIU community.

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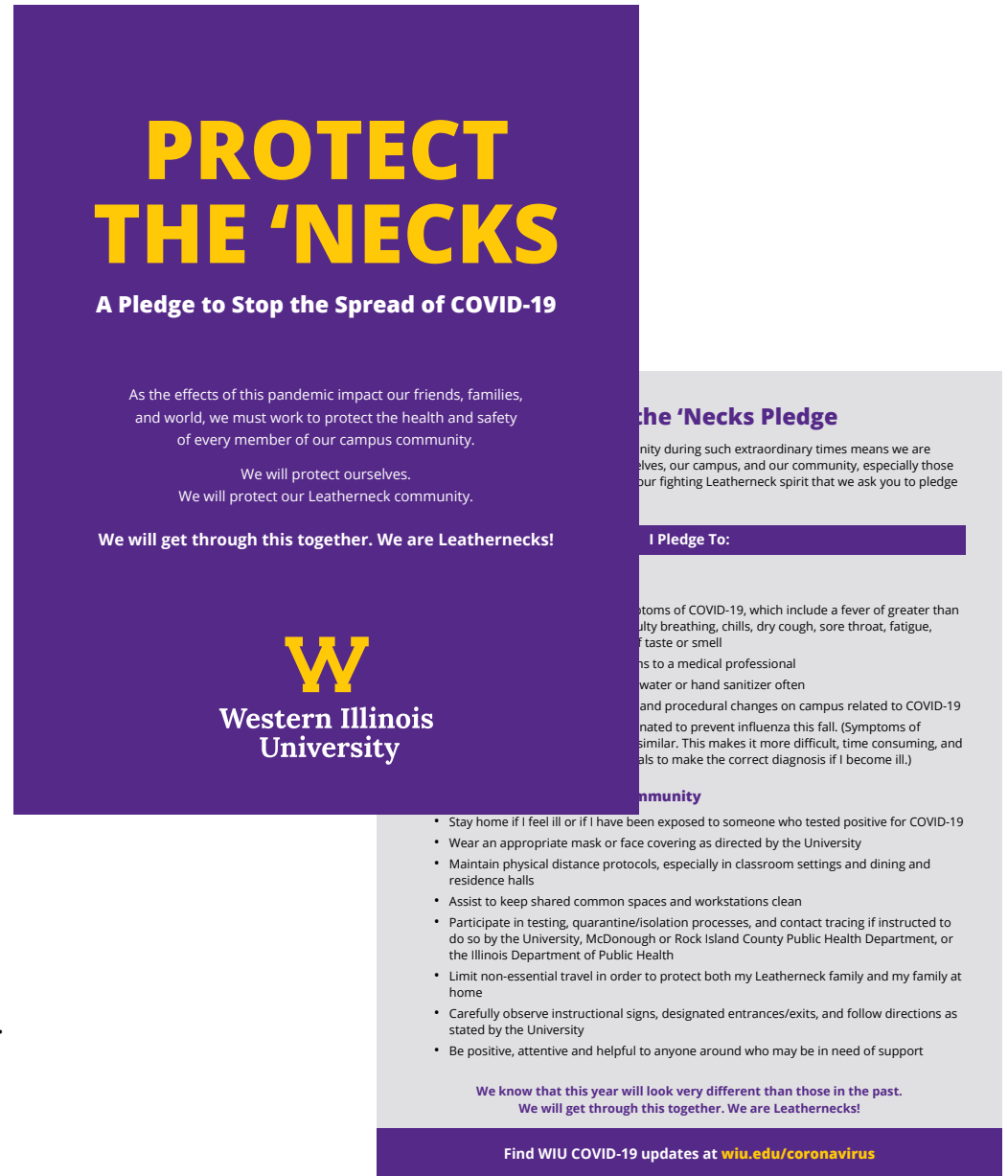
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Expect Each Individual Associated with Western Illinois University to Assume Personal Responsibility for Themselves, Others, and the WIU Community

Create a culture of safety and accountability through a universal pledge

Every member of the WIU community will take protective measures and act accordingly with the Protect the 'Necks Pledge and its individual components on and off campus.

- All individuals associated with WIU will participate in online training to learn the required practices and navigate the new normal on campus.
- All students, faculty and staff will monitor for and report all symptoms of COVID-19 to their primary care physicians or Beu Health Center.
- All will practice critical safety practices including wearing face coverings, enhanced personal hygiene practices such as frequent hand washing and sanitizer use, adhering to social distancing practices and following all safety instructions and signage.
- All students, faculty and staff will be encouraged to receive the seasonal flu vaccination in the fall in an effort to reduce demand on healthcare resources, as well as to help healthcare providers differentiate the virus as both COVID-19 and the seasonal flu have almost identical symptoms.
- All will keep personal belongings and all living, studying and working spaces disinfected and clean to the best of their abilities.



PROTECT THE 'NECKS

A Pledge to Stop the Spread of COVID-19

As the effects of this pandemic impact our friends, families, and world, we must work to protect the health and safety of every member of our campus community.

We will protect ourselves.
We will protect our Leatherneck community.

We will get through this together. We are Leathernecks!

W
Western Illinois University

the 'Necks Pledge

Community during such extraordinary times means we are responsible for ourselves, our campus, and our community, especially those who are most vulnerable. It is our responsibility to uphold our fighting Leatherneck spirit that we ask you to pledge to protect our community.

I Pledge To:

Recognize the symptoms of COVID-19, which include a fever of greater than 100.4°F, difficulty breathing, chills, dry cough, sore throat, fatigue, loss of taste or smell, and/or loss of smell.

Seek medical attention from a medical professional if symptoms persist for more than 72 hours. Wash hands with water or hand sanitizer often.

Follow all safety and procedural changes on campus related to COVID-19. Stay home if I feel ill or if I have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19.

Wear a mask or face covering as directed by the University.

Maintain physical distance protocols, especially in classroom settings and dining and residence halls.

Assist to keep shared common spaces and workstations clean.

Participate in testing, quarantine/isolation processes, and contact tracing if instructed to do so by the University, McDonough or Rock Island County Public Health Department, or the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Limit non-essential travel in order to protect both my Leatherneck family and my family at home.

Carefully observe instructional signs, designated entrances/exits, and follow directions as stated by the University.

Be positive, attentive and helpful to anyone around who may be in need of support.

We know that this year will look very different than those in the past. We will get through this together. We are Leathernecks!

Find WIU COVID-19 updates at wiu.edu/coronavirus

1 Expect Each Individual Associated with Western Illinois University to Assume Personal Responsibility for Themselves, Others, and the WIU Community

Require a series of safe health protocols, including the wearing of face coverings

Leathernecks and visitors will adhere to a set of safe health protocols to protect themselves and others.

- These protocols apply to anyone on campus, including but not limited to all faculty, students, staff, contractors, vendors, suppliers, and guests.
- Protocols include wearing a face covering in indoor and outdoor settings; following new building signage and other measures to promote social distancing; and robust personal hygiene.
- **Failure to comply with these protocols may result in disciplinary action.**

Adjust student orientation and move-in week activities to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission and set the stage for a culture of health and safety

New programming for first-year and returning students will communicate expectations for safe practices and safe living environments.

- Before arriving, students will be given prep materials orienting them to campus, including new COVID-19-related expectations through an online training module.
- All event scheduling will be adapted to incorporate safety practices that spread out activities that have traditionally been congested.

Extend residence hall move-in process for all students

A staged return of students into campus housing is planned to spread out activities ahead of the first day of classes.

- Residence hall move-in will begin on Wednesday, August 19 to stagger move-in operations.
- This prolonged move-in schedule will allow housing staff to better coordinate move-in operation efforts to ensure social distancing, cleaning precautions, and other safety measures are being followed.
- All students living on-campus will sign up for a move-in period.



2 Implement Personal Health and Safety Practices and Protocols

Establish a comprehensive testing and contact tracing system

The ability to test and trace individuals who have been infected by COVID-19 is key to containing the spread of the virus.

Readily available testing and contact tracing are essential for the return to campus, as they allow for the rapid identification and containment of new cases. University administration continues to meet with County public health officials, testing providers, and other partners to develop robust on-campus capabilities in these areas. The following guidelines will be followed.

- Conduct temperature checks/screenings of individuals where appropriate and applicable and when recommended in certain settings (e.g. clinicals, events, dining operations, athletics, others).
- Work closely with respective County Health Departments to develop and establish protocols and processes to assist with contact tracing.
- Research feasibility of COVID-19 related apps.
- Continue to investigate options and feasibility to incorporate testing for all WIU students, faculty, and staff.

Distribute face coverings and sanitizer to every WIU student

All students, staff, and faculty will receive two (2) WIU themed cloth face coverings. Additionally, students will be provided a bottle of hand sanitizer. It is recommended that all students bring with them a digital thermometer, disinfecting wipes, and additional hand sanitizer as they plan for the fall semester.

WIU FACE COVERINGS & HAND SANITIZER
WIU will provide 2 university themed cloth face coverings and 1 small bottle of sanitizer free of charge to all WIU students.

free
for all WIU students

*while supplies last

Students are encouraged to bring a **digital thermometer, disinfecting wipes, and additional sanitizer** with them to campus to protect and monitor their health.

2 Implement Personal Health and Safety Practices and Protocols

Identify and set aside rooms for isolation and quarantine

Students with direct contact to those who test positive for COVID-19 or who show symptoms will be required to quarantine. All students who test positive for COVID-19, whether or not they show symptoms, will be required to isolate.

- WIU University Housing and Dining Services has set aside approximately 200 beds for isolation and quarantine, with contingency plans in place should more space be needed.

Acquire and maintain critical equipment and supplies to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 on campus

WIU will acquire and maintain at least a 60-day supply of critical equipment and supplies to protect the WIU community and limit the spread of COVID-19 on campus.

- These supplies will include face coverings, gowns, face shields (where required), hand sanitizer, disinfectant, and other cleaning and protective supplies.

Adopt an alternative Fall 2020 academic calendar

Fall and holiday breaks will be eliminated to allow on-campus instruction to conclude by Thanksgiving.

- Fall break on Friday, October 2 is canceled and WIU will be open and holding face-to-face classes.
- By order of the Illinois Governor, Tuesday, November 3, 2020 is deemed a state Holiday and the University will be closed with classes canceled.
- On-campus instruction will occur Aug. 24 to Nov. 20.
- Classes will resume on Monday, Nov. 30, 2020 in alternative formats for the remainder of the semester. Final Exams will be in an online format December 14-18, 2020.
- View the **Fall 2020 academic calendar**.
- A decision on the Spring 2021 semester is forthcoming.

Conduct Fall 2020 commencement virtually

Consistent with Western's suspension of large on-campus events, December 2020 commencement will be conducted virtually.

- December's commencement will be delivered virtually, in a manner consistent with the successful May 2020 ceremony-on-demand.



2 Implement Personal Health and Safety Practices and Protocols

Establish partnership with health department to provide oversight and management of contact tracing for COVID-19.

The WIU Beu Health Center and the Student Development and Success Center (SDSC) will assist the Rock Island and McDonough County Health Departments to provide information for students, faculty and staff to facilitate consistent case management for the health and well-being of the entire Western Illinois community with respect to the COVID-19 virus.

- The Student Development and Success Center (SDSC) will coordinate wellness checks for students, faculty, and staff for COVID-19 related incidences. Beu Health Center and McDonough District Hospital will continue to provide primary care services for non-COVID-19 health concerns.
- The Rock Island County Health Department, McDonough County Health Department, Beu Health Center and the Student Development and Success Center (SDSC) will be staffed by a dedicated medical team of medical physicians, case managers and contact tracers working alongside our campus implementation teams.

- Interfacing with state/local health authorities and healthcare providers, the Beu Health Center will oversee the clinical care pathway: monitoring of symptoms, and testing. The respective health department will coordinate tracing of clinically relevant contacts. The Student Development and Success Center, in conjunction with Risk Management and Housing and Dining Services will facilitate isolation and quarantine decisions.

Establish a protocol for on-campus housing to further protect vulnerable students

Students with health conditions that place them at greater vulnerability to severe illness due to COVID-19 will be offered living accommodations that reduce their risk of contracting the virus.

- Accommodations will include single-occupancy rooms.
- Students needing additional accommodations will be requested to work through the Disability Resources Office in the Student Development and Success Center (SDSC).

- Additional bed spaces will be opened up to spread out individuals in buildings.

Establish guidelines and protocols for safe student organization and group meetings

Recognizing that the broad and diverse nature of WIU's student organizations significantly contributes to the educational experience, we are committed to fostering an environment that supports their activities while prioritizing the health and safety of their members. To accomplish this we will:

- Centralize meeting and event requests through the University Union Scheduling and Event Services Office.
- Develop guidelines for event planning that include social distancing protocols and other safe practices.
- Support the reformatting of activities to maximize safe practices, such as outdoor and virtual events.
- Encourage student leaders to create opportunities for Western students not physically on campus to engage with their fellow students.

3 Enact Health Safety Changes in Physical Spaces

Classrooms and campus living and studying spaces

Nearly 300 classrooms, 3,000 living spaces, dining centers and libraries will be redesigned to allow for safe social distancing, with an enhanced commitment to the health and safety of our campus community. Additional spaces for study will be available throughout campus.



Redesign classroom and instructional spaces

Occupant capacities in all classrooms will be reduced.

- Classrooms and other instructional spaces will be reconfigured to allow for 100-sq-ft per instructor which should account for 10' distance from students. In cases where 10' is not available a barrier will be put in place.

- To accommodate physical distancing, the capacity of classrooms will be reduced by an average of 61%, based on classroom layout. Classrooms/auditorium desks or chairs have been evaluated and seating that is off-line (not available for use) for six-foot social distancing purposes will be wrapped and designated with signage.
- Classroom protocols, including new entry/exit procedures and additional disinfection and cleaning procedures, will be established.
- Additional personal hygiene measures will be required for common contact points in more interactive teaching environments.
- All class participants (students and instructors) must wear face coverings and students will be encouraged to face the same direction as much as possible.



3 Enact Health Safety Changes in Physical Spaces

Ensure living spaces in residence halls address physical distancing protocols

Proper social distancing in residence halls, new cleaning and sanitation protocols, revised room assignment plans — particularly for those with health considerations — and overall enhanced hygiene practices will be enacted.

Residential spaces in WIU's residence halls will either have:

- Enough square footage per person (at least 113 square feet) to allow for a radius of 6 feet per person.
- Bed placement that will allow for at least 10 feet head-to-head, when measured 1 foot from the headboard.

Following these guidelines, the number of residential spaces in WIU's residence halls will be reduced by approximately 838.

Implement a multifaceted approach to minimize risk in dining halls

Sodexo Campus Services will offer a carry-out dining model with limited indoor seating to begin the semester.

- New social distanced queueing procedures will be in place, with one-way traffic through the dining locations.
- Special dietary needs will continue to be met, and student-favorite items will be incorporated at each location.
- Limited seating will be provided for indoor locations, with seating spread out to accommodate social distancing guidelines.
- As conditions and protocols change, staff are prepared to gradually open additional seating in dining rooms and scale points of service appropriately.
- All retail dining facilities will provide meals per state and local restaurant requirements.



3 Enact Health Safety Changes in Physical Spaces

Reopen the Campus Recreation Center with protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19

While physical distancing of six feet will be required at all times, in some locations additional distance may be required for low to moderate intensity activities, and high intensity activities will be discouraged.

- Some building areas will be offline until safe usage can resume.
- Total patron capacity will be limited.
- Virtual offerings will continue for students and members at wiu.edu/campusrec.

Ready buildings, common spaces for activities

The layout and design of campus buildings and facilities are being assessed one-by-one to ensure proper health and safety updates are made, appropriate signage is posted and public-use areas are addressed.

- HVAC reconfigurations, wayfinding aids, system adjustments, de-densified areas throughout campus and other considerations are among the measures

underway to ready campus for reopening.

- Elevator occupancy will be established and displayed at each elevator location.
- Western will hire additional building services staff and leverage existing staff resources to meet surge requirements for disinfecting operations.



4 Offer a Range of Instructional Options for Students and Faculty

Offer students robust on-campus, alternative and online options for the Fall 2020 semester

To accommodate students who cannot or choose not to return to campus, WIU will offer several online options.

- We recognize that, for a variety of reasons, not all students will be on campus this fall.
- Alternative formats and online offerings will include a subset of available undergraduate courses, selected intentionally based on past enrollment, broad use across majors and plans of study and input from department heads.
- The Center for Innovation in Teaching and Research is collaborating with faculty to create content and design a variety of courses for ensuring the same content and learning opportunities as their on-campus counterparts.



- Online and alternative format courses will be tailored for the online environment, including high-quality video and audio, engaging activities, opportunities for student-to-student interaction and connections between students and faculty.

Design courses to enable academic continuity for all students

We will redesign courses to be more flexible in the face of disruption and uncertainty, while meeting the University's high standards of rigor and excellence.

- Classes will be developed and delivered in a variety of different formats including face-to-face and virtual.
- Online courses will be reformatted to be Asynchronous –Traditional 100% online courses that students access and complete on their own or Synchronous -100% online classes that require the student to log onto the course on designated days and times in order to participate.
- To meet the needs of individuals who prefer face-to-face instruction, On-campus blended courses have been created. These courses are a mixture of in-person class meetings and online course content, but there is more face-to-face content delivery than with the hybrid course sections.
- Some course work will be available at off-campus extension sites. Extension courses may be video-conferenced with the Macomb or Quad Cities campuses.
- Live streaming and weekend courses will also be offered.

5 Identify and Protect the Most Vulnerable Members of the WIU Community

Establish criteria for assessing vulnerable populations and a process for accommodating vulnerable individuals

Faculty and staff will self-assess and self-report their vulnerability level, with appropriate and necessary accommodations made to allow job duties and responsibilities to continue to be performed in a safe manner.

- A secure **intake form** that follows healthcare privacy laws will allow employees to self-identify known vulnerability factors to the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (EOA) for those needing medically related accommodations.
- Students needing accommodations can work confidentially with the **Disability Resource Center**.
- Human Resources and the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (EOA) will work with individuals and supervisors on appropriate workplace accommodations, potentially including remote work, alternative work schedules, special PPE, and/or physical alterations to work environments.

Optimize faculty and staff ability to work remotely through necessary equipment and skills training

Remote employees will be eligible to obtain necessary home office equipment when required.

Make student aid funding available for eligible students

Eligible students who experience unexpected expenses directly related to a disruption of their educational experience due to COVID-19 may qualify to receive emergency aid funding.

- We will work with financial aid to make changes that focus on review of need-based aid for students, including the availability of supplemental funding through State and Federal programs (which includes CARES, and allows for the possibility of more funding in future legislation).



6

Engage Our Stakeholders with Consistent and Timely Communication and Clear Guidance

Share the latest information via the WIU website

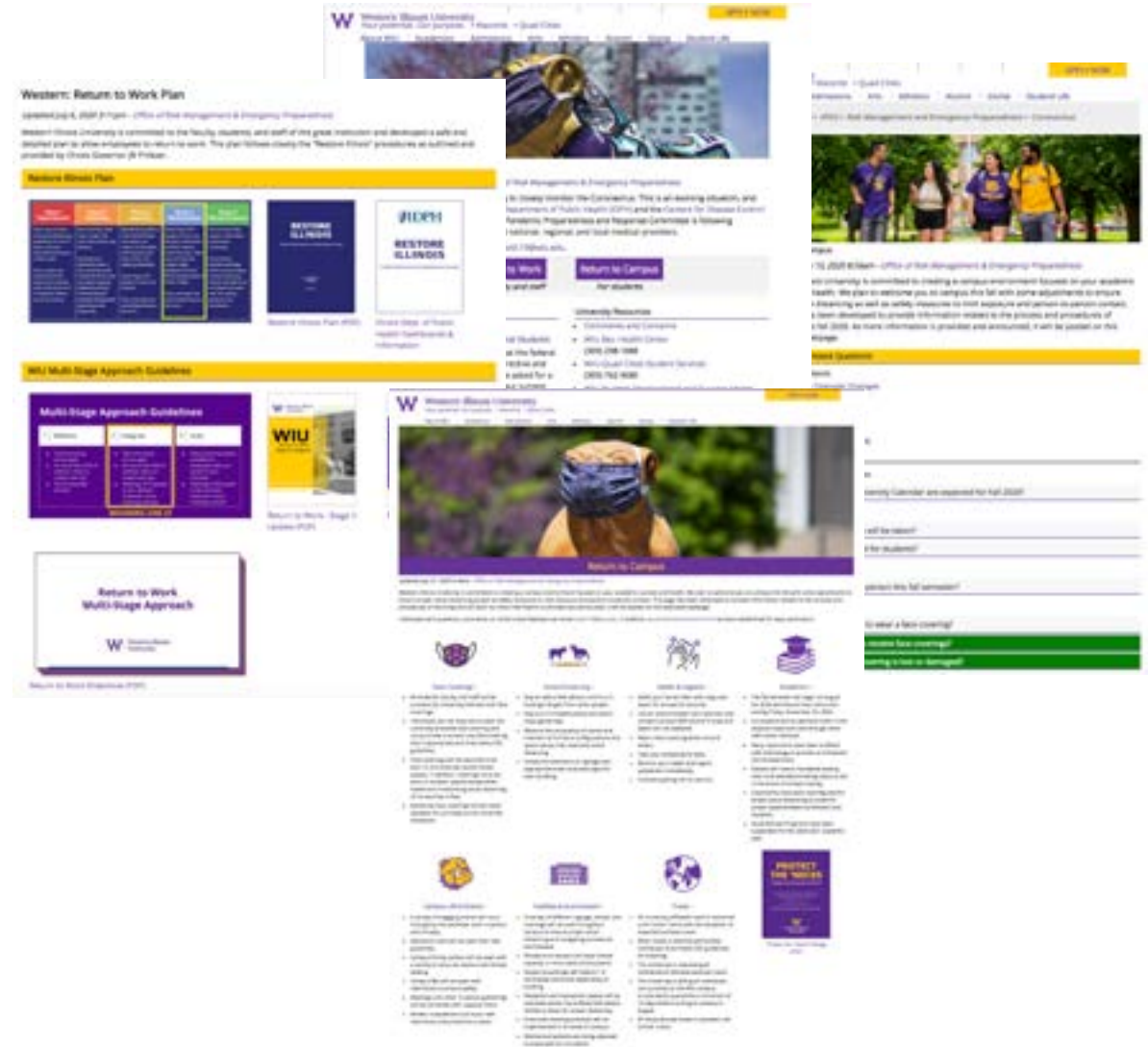
The website, wiu.edu/coronavirus, is our campus and community's source for the latest information, guidance and answers to the most frequently asked questions.

Create and disseminate engaging and meaningful content around the Protect the 'Necks Plan campaign to instill a culture of personal responsibility and daily action to Protect the 'Necks — ourself, others, and our WIU community.

Resources to support Protect the 'Necks

Alumni and friends can help ensure a safe environment for students, faculty, and staff by supporting the Student Emergency Fund.

- Give to **Student Emergency Fund**.



6 Engage Our Stakeholders with Consistent and Timely Communication and Clear Guidance

Partner across the Macomb and Quad City communities to collectively advance safety efforts, particularly for students living and engaging in activities off-campus

We will partner with community leaders, business owners and operators and property managers to promote healthy practices in off-campus environments, including apartments and establishments that students frequent.

- Recognizing that WIU has a responsibility to support the health and safety of the Macomb and Quad City communities, we will engage with a broad range of stakeholders to encourage the adoption of the tenets of the Protect the 'Necks Plan — which will likely be more stringent than those experienced or witnessed within the outside community — beyond the borders of our campus.
- We will work with landlords to support the safety of our students living off-campus and we will expect our off-campus students to adhere to the tenets of the Protect the 'Necks Pledge at all times.
- We will work with students and where possible, advisory committees and national organizations to promote safe practices in these living facilities of our students involved with Greek fraternity and sorority life.



7 Advance Our Mission in a Safe and Responsible Way

Continue to assess and implement safety measures in University facilities

One of the first steps in returning to operations has been to ensure the developed practices, protocols, and procedures being implemented are successful.

- Monitor and review how individuals on campus adhere to campus-wide COVID-19 safety standards.
- Adapt and implement additional safety measures as technology, services, information, and guidance evolves.

Open campus spaces that are restricted or closed in phases, building-by-building:

- As the State of Illinois moves through the Restore Illinois plan, WIU will work to implement the process of reopening locations on our campuses that are closed or restricted such as athletic locations, meeting rooms, and restore classrooms as allowed.
- Identify controls that may be added to increase occupancy while maintaining health and safety protocols.
- Bring back personnel to campus.

Develop and provide quality educational programs and experiences

- Continue to assess and develop modes of delivery that maintains the highest quality academic experience for students.
- Review the success rate of student attendance and participation of both virtual and on-campus activities and develop on-going programs and activities that provide a more holistic college experience.



8

Anticipate and Plan for Contingencies

Plan extensively for the possibility of a major outbreak of COVID-19

The Protect the 'Necks Working Group is developing a range of contingency plans based on situations and circumstances that might occur and that may require the University to pause or shut down some or all of our activities.

- To prepare for this scenario, WIU is taking into careful consideration surrounding healthcare and treatment capabilities, on-campus testing capacities and back-up providers, and available isolation and quarantine capabilities on and around campus.
- Contingency planning is also taking into account surrounding community, state and federal guidelines.
- The WIU-Macomb campus has established the McDonough County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC serves as McDonough County's central command and control facility during the COVID-19 pandemic and is comprised of members from local law enforcement and fire service agencies, the McDonough County Health Department, McDonough District Hospital, Western Illinois University, the City of Macomb, the Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board, Western Illinois GIS Center, and the McDonough County Emergency Services Disaster Agency (ESDA). The EOC's main responsibility is providing the strategic direction and operational decisions that are involved with emergency preparedness. The EOC will remain active to provide further guidance and recommendations as we move through the academic year.





WIU.EDU/CORONAVIRUS

Any Questions?

Share your questions, comments and constructive feedback with the Protect the 'Necks Working Group at covid-19@wiu.edu.



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