Welcome to the latest COVID-19 update with information about how the University of California is responding and adapting to the pandemic, as well as campus, health center and national laboratory news.

**Preparedness and Response**
Critical operations continue at all UC campus and system locations, and our health centers continue to provide vital services to their communities.

- **A team led by Berkeley Lab’s Jessica Granderson has started Shield the Bay**, a network of volunteers who are using 3D printers to develop durable and lightweight face shields for health care providers.
- **UC’s Agriculture and Natural Resources program, the UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (UC SAREP)**, co-hosted an event to support home cooks interested in establishing their own small businesses during the pandemic.
- **Los Alamos National Laboratory has completed the installation of Chicoma**, a next-generation high performance supercomputing platform that will enhance critical research in support of the country’s response to COVID-19.

**Student and Campus Life**
UC is committed to ensuring continuity and providing resources for its campus and lab communities.

- **The UC Santa Cruz Molecular Diagnostic Lab will be honored as a 2020 Group Winner in the Be the Difference Awards**, sponsored by the Santa Cruz County Volunteer Center, for the lab’s work to provide local COVID-19 testing.
- **In a recent UC Davis LIVE, the campus hosted a conversation on the intersection between climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic in California**.
- **As part of its UC Berkeley Conversations series, earlier this month the campus hosted the first in a mini-series focused on the impacts of COVID-19 on forcibly displaced people in the global south**.

**Research**
UC researchers continue to advance understanding and develop new tools to address and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Below are highlights of some of the efforts taking place.

- **UCSF researchers published an analysis that provides an ethical framework to help policymakers implement contact tracing efforts while balancing privacy concerns**.
- **A study led by UC Riverside shows how variations in the SARS-CoV-2 host gene explain the varying degrees of fever, fatigue, and breathing problems patients experience**.
- **In a new research brief, UC Merced researchers examine how the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected Latino immigrants in rural California**.
• A new study by UC Santa Barbara researchers is modelling the spread of the virus in various temperatures and relative humidities in typical indoor situations to better understand how the virus spreads.
• A UC Irvine-led study is looking into how individuals interact in online support groups during quarantine and how demographic differences may affect their behavior online.
• UCLA researchers recently published their predictions on the enduring psychological fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic that includes consequences in birthrates, gender roles and the ability to make connections with others.
• The San Diego Supercomputer Center at UC San Diego is utilizing its Comet supercomputer to better understand how the immune system attacks foreign pathogens, including the Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2.
• Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is computationally screening over 700 million small molecule compounds to pinpoint the subset that can be developed into antiviral drugs for COVID-19.

Ongoing Challenges
We are thankful for the emergency legislation that Congress has passed to date, but we know that California and our nation won’t fully recover without additional investments to our states, as well as in research, health care and education.

• UC has experienced more than $2.3 billion in expenditures and loss revenue through Sept. 30, 2020, and because California’s economy has taken a big hit, the UC system could see additional – and substantial – losses. As the Congress works on an additional COVID-19 supplemental appropriations package, we would like to call your attention to UC’s priorities as they relate to support for states, higher education, health care research, and tax and financing issues.

Learn More About UC’s Coronavirus Response Efforts

If you have any questions about this update or other issues, please contact Chris Harrington with UC’s Office of Federal Governmental Relations.