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

On **Tuesday, May 19 at 2 pm ET**, UC will host “The Education Stabilization Fund,” its third virtual briefing in a series aimed at providing policy staff and federal stakeholders with COVID-19-related information from UC experts. This briefing will focus on the COVID-19 response from UC’s financial aid directors and will include an update on the distribution of funds through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF).

**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.

- Last week, UC hospitals announced a gradual resumption of essential services at all five medical centers across the state based on 10 principles. >> Read More
- On May 4, Governor Newsom announced an ambitious program with UCSF and UCLA to train thousands of people in public health techniques and strategies. >> Read More
- For those at home with kids looking for educational activities, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory has a “STEM at Home Resources” page with links to experiments, games, podcasts, videos and more. >> Read More
- In response to limitations due to COVID-19 and social distancing guidelines, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is taking a new approach and bringing the Teacher Research Academy to participants virtually. >> Read More

**Student and Campus Life**
While there is no doubt that the remainder of the 2019-20 academic year will be different, UC is committed to ensuring continuity and providing resources for its students.

- UC Merced’s Office of Leadership, Service and Career is digitalizing its services to ensure students can still receive a wide range of leadership, service and career support services. >> Read More
- The UC San Diego Return to Learn Program will make COVID-19 testing available to thousands of students in an effort to track the novel coronavirus and better position the campus to resume in-person activities in the fall. >> Read More
- At UC Berkeley, COVID-19 relief targets vulnerable students, but more aid is needed. >> Read More
- Experts across the UC system are sharing their knowledge with their communities via online seminar and webinar series. Some of these include:
  - UC Santa Barbara faculty and community experts are offering lecture sessions on a variety of facets and insights into the COVID-19 pandemic, and its implications across a range of areas. >> Read More
UC Davis is launching two new series that take a deep dive into how researchers are meeting the challenge of COVID-19. They will explore how UC Davis scientists, clinicians, engineers and others, often working across disciplines, are turning their knowledge to tackle COVID-19, from its origin to our communities and hospitals. >> Read More

In a recent episode of the UC Irvine Podcast Video Series, UCI Professor of Chemistry Rachel Martin discusses a project in her lab that centers on finding a way to block the ability of the coronavirus to make copies of itself once it’s inside the human body. >> Watch the Video

In a recent “Chats with Chancellor Cindy,” UC Santa Cruz’s chancellor provides an update on the arrival of coronavirus diagnostic testing and other COVID-19 research taking place. >> Watch the Video

UC Berkeley has launched a “Berkeley Conversations: COVID-19,” a series of live, online events featuring faculty experts from across campus who are sharing what they know, and what they are learning about the pandemic continues with new events added regularly. >> Read More

Through UCLA Connections, experts host conversations intended to build community and foster resilience as we address and adapt to the changes brought about by COVID-19. >> Learn More

**Research**

UC researchers are advancing scientific understanding and developing new tools, while sharing their knowledge of COVID-19 with researchers around the world. Below are highlights of some of the efforts taking place.

- With funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA is leading a project, in collaboration with the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, to study ways to reduce the risk for COVID-19 infection among emergency department workers. >> Read More
- A National Science Foundation grant to UC Irvine Associate Professor of Political Science Sara Wallace Goodman will fund the study of how partisanship has affected health behaviors during the coronavirus crisis. >> Read More
- A recent study by researchers at UC Riverside, USC and Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University found that delays in state lockdown orders have led to an increase in total cases by 15-25 percent per week. >> Read More
- Los Alamos National Laboratory is drawing on its rich history in the biological sciences to support the national effort against COVID-19. >> Read More

**Ongoing Challenges**

Even with Congress’ vital support, many of our students and their families continue to suffer. We’re thankful for the emergency legislation that has been signed into law, but know that our community won’t fully recover without additional investments. Continued prioritization in research, health care and education are necessary as these three pillars are essential for our collective recovery.

- Details about UC’s specific priorities and ongoing challenges are detailed in an April 10 letter from UC President Janet Napolitano that was shared with your office. >> Read More
Thank you to Rep. Ami Bera who joined us, as well as other members of The Science Coalition, for a virtual headliner event last week during which the congressman discussed the important role that science, and our nation’s research institutions, play in our collective recovery.

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