

Campus and Community Advisory Committee Update

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Tuesday, September 22, 2020

This week, on September 22nd, we launched the Community Campus Advisory Committee (CCAC). The first meeting included the Chancellor charging the committee, an update on the State of the Science related to COVID-19, Q&A, introductions, open discussion, and process planning.

Key Process take-aways from the meeting include:

- A commitment from the co-chairs to create an open and meaningful process in which members have the opportunity for timely in-put.
- A commitment from members to meet weekly for the next 6 to 8 weeks. We will meet on Tuesdays from 3-5 p.m. These are open meetings and we will switch to a webinar format to allow for outside questions and answers and comments.

Key Points Arising from Presentations and Discussion

Dr. Audrey Pettifor, professor of epidemiology, presented “State of the Science” highlights to the group and described how university openings were progressing across the country. A key fact to emerge from this discussion, is that for **any plan** to be successful **viral load in the community must be low**. Smaller schools and those with limited Greek life are also seeing greater success with residential living and learning on campus.

Mr. Aaron Nelson of the Chapel Hill Chamber of Commerce believes that many students did not leave the dorms and return to their home communities. Rather, they moved into apartments and other housing options in the Chapel Hill community. Knowing whether or not this is true is important to knowing exactly how many students are in our community right now, because, viral spread in our community right now is at a manageable level. Aaron Nelson and Aaron Bachenheimer will bring as much specificity about these numbers as possible to our 9/29 meeting or as soon as they are able to gather the data.

Key Questions Emerging from the Discussion

- What has changed since early August that would allow UNC-Chapel Hill and the Chapel Hill community to consider a return to residential living and learning on campus?
- Do we know if students are interested in returning to campus having now made other arrangements in the fall?
- Clearly 60% occupancy in the dorms was too much. What percentage of occupancy would be considered safe?
- What level of viral load in our community would signal that a return to residential living and learning would not be safe?

Planning for our Next Meeting

- After our first full meeting, the co-chairs were asked to meet with the Provost in order to create a communication channel to the Implementation Team. Weekly work sessions have been scheduled so that there will be regular information flow between the CCAC and the Implementation Team.
- The Provost has asked that the CCAC consider specific questions for which decisions must be quickly made. We have said “yes” to that request. This response will be reflected in this week’s forthcoming agenda.
- At our next meeting, we will be dividing our time into four unequal blocks.
 - First, process and housekeeping details.
 - Second, information sharing.
 - Third, discussion and decision-making around a “key question” of the day. (Further information on this key question will come with each agenda.)
 - Finally, open discussion of issues emerging from the day’s conversation.