Research Activation Town Hall
Governance Questions

1. How will the campus decision to reopen be determined?
2. What role with the COM Dean’s Office & departmental leadership have in the reopening process?
3. Should research be phased in line with COVID-19 task force guidelines?
4. Will there be any impact on start-up packages? (e.g. spending requirements)
State of Illinois 5-Phase Reopening Plan

Phase 1: Rapid spread
High rate of infection among those tested, number of patients admitted to the hospital is high or rapidly increasing.

Moving from Phase 1 to Phase 2: Flattening

Phase 2: Flattening
Rate of infection and the number of patients admitted to the hospital beds and ICU beds increases at an ever slower rate, flattening or even moving downward.

Moving from Phase 2 to Phase 3: Recovery

Phase 3: Recovery
The rate of infection is stable or declining. Hospitalizations and ICU capacity remains stable or is decreasing.

Moving from Phase 3 to Phase 4: Revitalization

Phase 4: Revitalization
Continued decline in infection rate. Hospitals have capacity and can quickly adapt for a surge.

Moving from Phase 4 to Phase 5: Illinois restored

Phase 5: Illinois restored
Testing, tracing and treatment are widely available throughout the state. Either a vaccine or treatment options are readily available that ensures health capacity is no longer a concern, or there are no new cases over a sustained period.

New cases
Hospitals
Testing

New cases
Hospitals
Testing
Contact tracing

New cases
Hospitals
Testing
Contact tracing

New cases
Hospitals
Testing
Contact tracing

What would make region go backward

Sustained rise in positivity rate
Sustained increase in hospital admissions
Hospital capacity not able to handle surge
Outbreak that threatens health of the region

Moving from Phase 1 to Phase 2
Moving from Phase 2 to Phase 3
Moving from Phase 3 to Phase 4
Moving from Phase 4 to Phase 5

New case growth slows
Enough surgical beds, ICU beds & ventilators to handle surge
Ability to perform 10,000 tests per day in the state. Testing for symptomatic health care workers & first responders

At or under 20% positivity rate & increasing no more than 10 percentage points over 14 days
No overall increase in hospital admissions for 28 days. At least 14% of ICU beds, surgical beds & ventilators to handle surge
Testing available in region regardless of symptoms or risk factors
Begin contact tracing & monitoring within 24 hours of diagnosis for more than 90% of cases in region

At or under 20% positivity rate & increasing no more than 10 percentage points over 14 days
No overall increase in hospital admissions for 28 days. At least 14% of ICU beds, surgical beds & ventilators to handle surge
Testing available for all patients, health care workers, first responders, people with underlying conditions & residents and staff in congregate living facilities
Should be available & begin within 24 hours of diagnosis

At or under 20% positivity rate & increasing no more than 10 percentage points over 14 days
No overall increase in hospital admissions for 28 days. At least 14% of ICU beds, surgical beds & ventilators to handle surge
Testing available for all patients, health care workers, first responders, people with underlying conditions & residents and staff in congregate living facilities
Should be available & begin within 24 hours of diagnosis

Vaccine, treatment or the elimination of new cases over a sustained period of time through herd immunity or other factors.
State of Illinois 5-Phase Reopening Plan

- What can open? What stays closed

**Schools**
- **Phase 1**: Remote learning; Schools, universities closed.
- **Phase 2**: Remote learning; Schools, universities closed.
- **Phase 3**: Remote learning; Schools closed.
- **Phase 4**: All schools, universities can open
- **Phase 5**: All schools, universities can open

**Health care**
- **Phase 1**: COVID-19 health care and emergency health care procedures only
- **Phase 2**: Elective health care procedures, with IDPH approval
- **Phase 3**: Health care providers open, with IDPH approval
- **Phase 4**: All open
- **Phase 5**: All open

**Gatherings**
- **Phase 1**: Essential gatherings must be 10 or fewer. No nonessential gatherings
- **Phase 2**: Essential gatherings must be 10 or fewer. No nonessential gatherings
- **Phase 3**: All gatherings of 10 or fewer allowed
- **Phase 4**: Gatherings of 50 people or fewer allowed, following CDC guidelines
- **Phase 5**: Large gatherings of all sizes can resume

**Child care**
- **Phase 1**: Must be 10 or fewer and for essential workers
- **Phase 2**: Must be 10 or fewer and for essential workers
- **Phase 3**: Limited child care and summer youth activities can open
- **Phase 4**: Child care can open with guidance
- **Phase 5**: All open

**Manufacturing**
- **Phase 1**: Essential only
- **Phase 2**: Essential only
- **Phase 3**: Nonessential with distancing
- **Phase 4**: All open with distance
- **Phase 5**: All open

**Travel**
- **Phase 1**: Emergency travel and nonessential travel allowed but discouraged
- **Phase 2**: Emergency travel and nonessential travel allowed but discouraged
- **Phase 3**: All allowed, following CDC guidance
- **Phase 4**: All allowed, following CDC guidance
- **Phase 5**: All allowed, following CDC guidance
## Campus Recovery Process Considerations

### Draft Conceptual Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campus Scenario and Planning Assumptions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop Campus Protocols and Templates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Safety Planning</td>
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<td>●</td>
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<td>Campus Review and Approval of Plans</td>
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<td>Campus Engineered and Administrative Controls</td>
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<tr>
<td>COM PPE Requirements &amp; Supply Orders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Onsite Departmental Admin Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>COM On-campus Academic Instruction Begins</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
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<tr>
<td>COM Research Activities Begin</td>
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<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Guidelines for Rebooting COM Academic & Research Activities

UIC At Large:
1. Recovery website: https://today.uic.edu/coronavirus
2. COVID-19 lab safety plans posted on the EHSO website: https://ehso.uic.edu/
3. Health screening checkpoints at the entrances to all buildings with ambulatory clinical activity (e.g. CSB, MSB, NPI, OCC, etc.)
   • All employees will be required to undertake a temperature check and wear masks through Phase 3.
4. iCard access to campus facilities
5. Delivery services to be streamlined so as to minimize exposure to COVID-19
Guidelines for Rebooting COM Academic & Research Activities

COM Dean’s Office:
1. Will organize a steady stream of PPE to be distributed regularly at the end of May
   • A cloth mask will be issued to each COM employee & student
   • An attic stock of disposal masks, gloves, & gowns will be accessible to research programs & individuals with elevated risk of potential exposure and/or health conditions
2. Deploy hand sanitizer dispensers at each COM elevator lobby & meeting room
3. Will work toward enhancing research operations in phases by the end of May
4. Identify/communicate a campus approved reboot date for courses, seminars, & large group meetings
5. Kate Campbell & Brian Strong will serve as the COVID-19 Recovery Coordinators from the Dean’s Office HR & Operational teams
   • Coordinate with Campus, University Health Services & COM academic units on COVID-19 personnel matters & mitigate exercises
   • Can be reached through COMevents@uic.edu
1. When will RRC & BRL core facilities be operational?
2. Core research facilities will be operational at 50% capacity by June 1, 2020
3. Will added precautions be required when submitting proposals to IRB?
4. What is the position of NIH in extending grant deadlines/laxity in extent of preliminary data etc.?
5. What research programs are required to register via the BioRaft portal?
Research Activation Town Hall
OVCR-related Questions

• Core research facilities will be operational at 50% capacity by June 1, 2020

• Therapeutic research studies that are part of clinical patient care may continue. If therapeutic care requires in-person contact, participants should be screened per UI Health policy before coming to campus.

• All non-therapeutic research activities should be placed on hold until further notice, unless such activities can be conducted remotely to avoid in-person visits. Investigators should maintain a log of studies/activities placed on hold and report these to the IRB at the time of their next Continuing Review, as applicable.

• Both NIH and NSF continue to allow one-time no-cost extensions (NCEs) without requesting prior approval. NIH requests for additional extensions (2nd NCEs, mid-project extensions) due to the impact of COVID-19 should be sent to OSP via email to awards@uic.edu. The request will be reviewed and forwarded with AOR endorsement.
Guidelines for Rebooting Research Activities

BioRaft:
BioRaft registration is required for all those who seek Environmental Health Safety Office approval for their projects. Those who require approval for any of the following will have to register on BioRaft.

Biosafety (e.g. blood borne pathogens, recombinant DNA, BSL2, and BSL3, etc)
Animal research (e.g. exposure animal source materials, use of any drugs or chemicals in animals, BSL2 and BSL3 work with animals, etc)

Chemical safety (hazardous or explosive chemicals, carcinogens, etc)

Radiation safety (isotopes, radiation emitting instruments, etc) or

Physical safety (working in magnetic fields, cryogenics, etc) should register.

The website can be accessed at https://uic.bioraft.com/ by using your UIC log in ID and password.

To view “Preparations for reopening laboratories registering with BioRaft” and “Check list for the safe re-opening of research laboratories” go to: https://research.uic.edu/researchrestart/update/checklist/
Research Activation Town Hall
Human Resources Questions

1. Will there be the ability to craft staggered/shift work schedules?

2. How will employees with preexisting health conditions or childcare needs be accommodated?

3. Will the pause in research & academic activities be taken into account for faculty promotion & tenure applications?

4. What kind of priorities, if any will be given to junior faculty during the re-opening (the challenges of a small vs. large laboratory with multiple personnel?)
Guidelines for Rebooting COM Academic & Research Activities

COM Departments & Centers:

1. Identify a COVID-19 Recovery Coordinator
   • Report all (potential) safety violations to the Dean’s Office

2. Ensure safety & wellbeing of all employees at all times
   • Employees with preexisting health conditions or childcare needs: the current assumption is that the requests for remote working arrangements would follow the current accommodations request protocol to OAE on a case by case.

3. Prioritize phase-in research consistent with prevailing state guidelines

4. Store an adequate PPE supply, implement an internal distribution plan, & ensure its proper use

5. Require employees to report to University Health Services, if exposed to COVID-19

6. Develop & distribute an emergency contact list with all internal stakeholders as well as the Dean’s Office
Guidelines for Rebooting COM Academic & Research Activities

Individual Laboratories:
1. No coercive step/measure should be taken to compel employees to come to work
2. Employee-specific work-plans/shifts must be developed for the initial reboot phase
3. Primary responsibility for the safety of lab personnel rests with the Principal Investigators (PI), who serve as the immediate supervisors
4. PI should ensure proper use of PPEs by their employees
5. PI should ensure that social distance can be maintained at all times while in the lab
6. PI should ensure that work areas & common equipment in the lab are decontaminated after each use
7. All safety violations should be brought to the attention of the head of the department
8. PI should have emergency contact information for all their employees & vice versa
Guidelines for Rebooting COM Academic & Research Activities

Individual:

1. Employees should not come to work, if sick
   • If an employee falls sick while on campus, they should go to employee health & immediately inform the supervisor

2. Employees should develop a work schedule/plan with their supervisor

3. Employees should take personal responsibility for their safety & well being

4. Employees should wear PPEs & follow PPE etiquette at all times while at work & during commuting

5. Employees should maintain social distance at all times

6. Employees should report any safety violation/concern immediately to the supervisor
COVID-19 rollback:
Tenure track assistant professors, as well as faculty on “Q” probationary appointments, employed during the 2020 Spring semester may apply for a one-year extension of the probationary period under the COVID-19 rollback policy. T5 faculty and faculty entering the final year of a “Q” contract must apply by May 15, 2020; T1 through T4 faculty and “Q” faculty not yet entering the final year of their appointment must apply by December 15, 2020.

COVID-19 special amendment for teaching evaluation of faculty:
Student evaluations of Spring 2020 semester teaching may be used as part of the promotion and tenure review only with the consent of the faculty member. If the faculty member chooses not to permit the use of these evaluations, that fact may not be used to make a negative inference or held against the faculty member.
Research Activation Town Hall
Life-Safety Questions

1. What are the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) standards?
   • Campus will supply two cloth masks for each employee & the COM will provide supplement orders for students and departments

2. How will PPE supplies be ordered and distributed?
   • Campus will centrally manage the standard PPE supply chain (cloth masks, surgical masks & disposable gloves) for purchase by colleges; the COM will distribute the PPE internally to our Departments/Centers

3. How will social distancing be maintained in labs & common areas?
   • Programs should stagger work shifts/schedules to maintain 6’ distance standard

4. What controls will be in place to manage risky behavior or handle potential COVID-19 cases on campus?
   • Report any concerns to the departmental Recovery Manager for coordination with COM (COMevents@uic.edu) & Campus
Research Activation Town Hall
Operational Questions

1. What are the revised custodial service standards & decontamination process?

2. Will there be a coordinated central receiving effort for research supplies and equipment?

3. What is the plan/recommendation for kitchenettes and breakrooms in the research facilities?

4. How will research activities be integrated back on campus near the University Health Services’ COVID-19 response & screening activities on the MSB 1st Floor?
Facilities Recovery Process Considerations

• Cleaning & Disinfection Standards
  o Routine FM custodial measures complying with CDC Interim Environmental Cleaning & Disinfection Recommendations - Novel Coronavirus Fighting Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wear designated Personal Protective Equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Identify common high-touch surfaces: light switches, doorknobs/handles, elevator buttons, stair railings, escalator railings, common area telephones, restroom sink, toilet handle, toilet seat, vending machine, etc. Facilities Manage will clean public areas and restrooms twice a day with a deep cleaning every 30 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Disinfect all high-touch surfaces twice a day. Use disinfecting agents in the UIC FM Building Services table.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Take off disposable gloves. Wash hands with soap and water.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Areas with confirmed COVID-19 cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>University Health Services testing &amp; triage [Link to survey] [Link to news article]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Notification to home department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Contact tracing &amp; isolation/quarantine of impacted faculty, staff, &amp; students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Engage with the EHSO-FM Trade Safety Officer, Scott Bush (<a href="mailto:stbush@uic.edu">stbush@uic.edu</a>, 312.355.2948)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mobilization of BMS CAT, contracted COVID-19 disinfection vendor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Academic Recovery Process Considerations

• Intercom & remote buzzer to be installed at COMRB, CMWT, & MBRB main entrances; vendor access will be managed by the COM Dean’s Office
• Hand sanitizer dispensers to be staged at each main entrance, elevator bank & class/conference room
• Encourage 1-2 people limit in elevators & update conference/classroom signage
• Revised occupancy limits:
  o Phase 2-3 gatherings of 10 or fewer; Phase 4 gatherings of 50 or fewer
  o Dictated by state & federal social distancing standards (currently 6’)
  o COM Classrooms - 1 occupant per table (excess chairs will be removed)
  o Auditoria (excess seats will be disabled/removed)
  o Increased buffer/transition time between events to minimize interactions in circulation spaces
• Consider/plan in advance for the technical/audiovisual capabilities required for future courses, seminars, meetings
  o Evolving needs & standards versus resource & workforce capacity
Example of Social Distancing Map
COMRB 3rd Floor

Floor Key
- Hand Sanitizer Stations
- iCard Access
- Wet Lab Density
  - COMRB Standard Modules: 8 person maximum
  - MBRB Standard Modules: 4 person maximum