

URI Informed

THE URI EMPLOYEES' NEWSLETTER

Vol. 29 Issue 1 SPRING 2021

How We Did It: Team Effort Allows University to Hit Goal of Offering Fall In-person Classes

by Dave Lavallee

They didn't know it at the time, but members of a University team working to get seven students safely home from China in late January 2020 were building a collaborative model that continues to serve the University well during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Starting Jan. 29, 2020, and for several days after, the team gathered in the University's Emergency Operations Center to get those first students back to the United

States, and later the remaining study-abroad students safely home.

During those hectic early days, Ellen Reynolds '91, assistant vice president for Health and Wellness and director of Health Services, called students a world away and reassured parents, while Cynthia Stanton '91, M.P.A. '17, director of Risk Management, turned into a travel agent, working with students and families to book flights home. Dean Libutti

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A crew shoots President David M. Dooley for one of his many video messages to the campus community during the fall semester. URI photo by Nora Lewis

THE
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OF RHODE ISLAND

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'95, vice provost for Enrollment Management, was on the line constantly answering questions about how study abroad students could continue their academic progress when they returned.

Sam Adams Ph.D.'23, director of Emergency Management, and Cassie Whitworth, campus preparedness planner in Emergency Management, coordinated the operation to make sure tasks were completed. Bob Viens, associate director of Information Technology Services, was there providing tech support. And Gifty Ako-Adounvo, vice provost for global initiatives, and her team tracked down students' locations, and provided phone numbers and email addresses to the team.

As the pandemic worsened and difficult deci-

sions arose, that model was key to converting 3,000 in-person classes during the spring semester to online classes in about nine days -- and putting 100 percent of summer session classes online while hitting enrollment targets for the fall semester. The University's 2020 summer enrollment set a record, allowing students to maintain their progress toward graduation.

The Faculty Senate, working with the Provost Donald H. DeHayes and the Senior Leadership Team, developed a compassionate, thoughtful grading policy for the spring semester that emphasized student well-being and academic progress.

For the 2020 fall semester, that teamwork would enable the University to return to in-person classes, on-campus living and dining, and the delivery of academic programs using the latest teaching and learning technology. The University is not aware of a single positive COVID-19 test linked to an academic setting through its contact tracing.

On behalf of the URI Board of Trustees, Chair Margo L. Cook '86, thanked the University community of students, faculty, and staff for their outstanding efforts during the pandemic.

"We recognize the challenges presented over the last year, and deeply appreciate your ability to learn, teach and work in a different environment, remaining flexible, resourceful and resilient," Cook said. "And you've done it all with the Rhody spirit that we all know. The University has made incredible strides, including innovating new ways of thinking

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Faculty, Deans, Students and Staff Stepped Up for Fall 2020 Return to Campus

by Dave Lavallee

Some institutions made early and bold statements about their plans for fall 2020, decisions from which they had to backtrack. URI and some others took a different path through the uncertainties of the global pandemic to bring their communities together.

“People were calling constantly, asking us daily what we were going to do and when would we tell them. The easy thing would have been to quickly put in place a plan without doing the necessary analysis. We didn’t do that. We didn’t have the luxury of a lot of time, but we did the hard work,” Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Donald H. DeHayes said.

In late April and May, a scenario planning team was assembled that included staff from the Provost’s Office, students, Faculty Senate leadership, leaders from the American Association of University Professors, deans, and staff from Health Services.

DeHayes’ team was asked to deliver the plan in June. It beat the deadline by a week.

“We started with four scenarios and nine learning constructs and then we came up with a new hybrid scenario, a flexible mix of in-person, blended, and online courses that we called a flex-mix,” DeHayes said. “Our faculty provided direct input that helped build this into something that was workable. This collaborative approach was a critical feature of URI’s plan, along with ramping up faculty training to deliver the most engaging virtual experience possible.

More than 1,200 faculty participants took part in training for online teaching and learning provided by the Office for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning during the spring and summer. “It was astounding and heartening to see faculty step up to enhance their skills for online learning,” the provost said.

One of the helpful parts of developing the flex-mix plan was the creation of a risk matrix that included 15 risk factors applied to each scenario and learning construct, including critical factors, such as health, enrollment, and financial risks.

“We developed a heat map where you could see in coded colors which were the most risky scenarios to pursue,” DeHayes said. “Many of us were eating, sleeping and drinking scenario planning for six or seven weeks.”

During some of the most difficult periods of the pandemic, the University positioned itself for the future by investing in one of President Dooley’s Transformational Goals -- Creating a 21st Century 24/7 Learning Environment.

“We made a \$1 million investment in the latest technology and our faculty poured their hearts and souls into updating their skills so that the University could become a technology-enriched learning environment,” DeHayes said. “These investments during this challenging time served us well in the fall and will serve us well into the future.”

One of the essential steps to completing the fall semester was the decision to bolster our asymptomatic testing and test all students for COVID-19 in October and to continue surveillance testing for all community members through the end of the semester

“It gave community members confidence, and it told them we care about all of you,” DeHayes said. “And, of course, it also helped us track COVID transmission.”

There were challenges, including some students who took fully asynchronous online courses with little face-to-face interaction with professors. “But because of our adaptive management approach and our technology investments, we are going to do more synchronous teaching where a teacher can work and talk simultaneously with those in the class and those learning remotely,” he said.

Many of our faculty were simultaneously trying to deliver the best possible academic experience for their URI students while trying to ensure their own children kept up with their remote classes for their schools. Others were scrambling to look after vulnerable elders or other loved ones. Our faculty stepped up in an extraordinary way.

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that will propel the University beyond this time. As stewards of the welfare of URI, the Board of Trustees is grateful to all of you for your perseverance and success in protecting the health and well-being of our community.”

In the words of Provost DeHayes, faculty and many others across the University “were flying the plane as they were building it.”

It also delivered more than 540 online and in-person student events during the fall semester, without a single case of COVID-19 being linked to those programs.

Perhaps most importantly, students by and large followed safety and health guidance and policies that kept the University’s positivity rate around or below 1 percent for much of the semester.

“All along, our theme has been unity of purpose to continue our central missions of teaching, learning and research,” said Adams, who along with Reynolds co-chair the University’s COVID-19 Task Force, a team made up of representatives from every University division—Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Administration and Finance, Research and Economic Development and Athletics. “Our survival depended on our ability to deliver on our missions. Since this pandemic began, no one has ever denied a request I made.”

President David M. Dooley said an inclusive approach to planning for the fall semester’s academic program that brought together faculty, staff and students, a ramped-up testing and contact tracing program executed by Health Services, and an emergency management effort that coordinated supply chain, classroom safety and facilities efforts were among the keys to having an in-person experience in the fall.

“We sought the perspectives of students and prospective students,” Dooley said. “Faculty were involved throughout the process of planning for the fall, and helped design and evaluate the strategies that were essential to our success. Students really wanted the value of intimate, face-to-face interactions with faculty. They were hungry for that because everyone had to pivot to online in the spring.”

He said the on-campus dynamic was very positive, especially with such good weather through much of the fall. “Just running into students on

campus was great and seeing how cheerful they were,” he said.

He also enjoyed ride-alongs with Narragansett Police with Vice President for Student Affairs Kathy Collins as they visited with students living in rental units in the community.

“We just dropped in on people to see how they were doing with masking, social distancing and group size,” Dooley said. “That was really fun, to see them back with so much enthusiasm even with the pandemic limiting what they could do.”

Dooley is also proud of the University’s efforts to keep its workforce intact through the fall semester, adding that URI did not lay off or furlough employees.

‘All hands on deck’

In the fall, Ellen Reynolds saw Health Services transform to the daily demands of safeguarding a small city amid a global health crisis.

In a normal year, Health Services logs an average of 28,000 student visits, which is enough to keep the 50 staff members plenty busy. When you add coordinating the administration of 66,242 COVID-19 tests, and contact tracing for 920 positive cases, with most of the testing and positive cases coming in the fall, the demands become exhausting.

That’s not to mention overseeing quarantine and isolation space for the fall and spring semesters and playing a key role in just about every aspect of the University community’s health and safety during the pandemic. One of the few college health centers in the country accredited by the Joint Commission, it is an epidemiology and testing center for the entire campus, including faculty and staff.

“With 920 positive cases in the fall, we had thousands of people who needed to be called for contact tracing,” Reynolds said. “We are talking up to five to seven calls per person who tested positive.”

She said everyone in her team took on crushing workloads during the fall, which meant working nights, weekends and holidays just to keep pace.

“Some days, we had 25 positive cases, and it was all hands on deck making contact tracing calls,” she said.

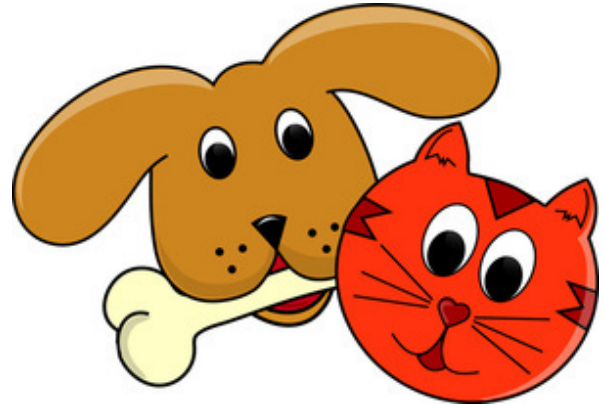
Despite the pandemic and its demands, Reynolds said these are the kinds of crises for which her team prepares. Everyone took on additional

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The Pets Corner



Kellie, a Maine Coon mix, was born at a cab stand in Lowell Massachusetts. We found her on-line (petfinder.com) in 2004. Kellie will be 17 in April 2021. -- *Ed Coppola, URI CEPS Facilities*



Pets Corner Invitation

What are your pets doing during COVID?

Send us your favorite photo of you and your pet.

We need a high resolution jpg.

Your name and department.

Your pet's name, breed

One or two sentences about your pet. Maybe the photo will tell us all we need to know.

Contact:

Nancy Gillespie
ngillespie@uri.edu



Harry is a 2 year old King Charles Cavalier. He has the sweetest disposition with a little bit of mischief! -- *Vicki Ansley, Property and Support Services*

How the University Delivered a Fall In-person Experience

Statistics help tell the story

by Dave Lavalley

- From Jan. 22, 2020 through Dec. 31, 2020, 66,242 COVID-19 tests were administered, resulting in 920 positive cases and a 1.39 percent positivity rate. The positivity rate remained around or below 1 percent for much of the fall semester.
- No reported transmission of the virus in the academic environment, or through any of the more than 540 student events, including kayaking, bike path trips, outdoors movies, yoga on the quad, lawn games, and more during the fall semester.
- The removal of tons of furniture and the reconfiguration of every classroom and learning space in 150 campus facilities so there would be adequate distance among students.
- 1,200 faculty participants in teaching and learning technology workshops or training sessions held in the spring and summer by the Office for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning and supported by Information Technology Services.
- 2,000 participants, including faculty and staff, trained with virtual learning and teaching tools such as Webex, Zoom and new technology for synchronous teaching and learning.
- Converted 110 classrooms for blended remote and local learning, supporting students in quarantine and isolation.
- \$1.6 million investment into technology supported learning, a significant step in achieving the Transformational Goal of creating 21st century classrooms across campus.
- More than 110 virtual admission events to help recruit new students, and virtual summer orientation with more than 3,000 advising sessions to help support new students and family members.
- 1,500 hand sanitizing stands assembled over two weekends at the start of the fall semester, and placed in every URI building.
- 2,000, two-gallon buckets of surface sanitizing wipes distributed throughout campus.
- 16,727 interior signs designed by Emergency Management printed by Printing Services and placed in every building by Emergency Management and Facilities Operations, providing direction on social distancing, mask wearing and hand washing.
- 181 signs for the #rhodytogether campaign, developed by Marketing and Communications for distribution at key exterior locations.
- From 2020 to January 2021, more than 100 direct email communications to faculty, staff, University affiliates and parents, many of which were promoted on URI's social media channels and listed on its COVID-19 website.



Warm Up with a Cup of Tea



E	N	G	L	I	S	H	Z	X	L	N	R
Q	P	T	Y	K	L	I	M	E	E	W	E
D	U	E	Q	E	N	Z	N	E	E	J	T
A	C	E	P	F	R	I	R	L	I	E	A
R	S	W	U	P	M	G	I	M	A	Z	W
J	G	S	P	S	E	M	L	P	H	K	I
E	E	N	A	S	O	R	O	R	C	A	N
E	Y	J	O	M	A	T	M	A	A	N	D
L	S	P	A	L	Z	U	L	I	O	E	I
I	O	H	O	T	O	B	C	M	N	X	A
N	C	H	I	N	A	O	E	E	H	T	Z
G	N	A	S	P	A	L	A	B	R	E	H

1. Assam

2. Black

3. Chai

4. Chamomile

5. China

6. Cosy

7. Cup

8. Darjeeling

9. Earl Grey

10. English

11. Green

12. Herbal

13. Hot

14. India

15. Infuse

16. Jasmine

17. Lapsang

18. Lemon

19. Milk

20. Oolong

21. Peppermint

22. Saucer

23. Sweet

24. Teapot

25. Water

DIRECTIONS: The object is to find the 25 hidden words within the grid. Words can be found horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards or forwards. Return the completed wordsearch to Shawn Marie Simmons, Provost Office, Green Hall, Room 109. Please include your name, address and e-mail with your entry. A drawing of all correct entries will determine the winner. A URI prize will be given to the winning entry.

The winner will be announced in the next issue of URInformed. Good Luck!

Name _____ Dept. _____

Campus Address _____

Phone Ext. _____ E-mail _____

Behind-the-scenes Teams Keep URI Going During Pandemic

Emergency Management, Facilities Group, Information Technology Services, Purchasing and Budget Groups Big Reasons for Fall Semester Success

by Dave Lavallee

When the University of Rhode Island decided to bring students back in the fall, it looked to groups that operate with little fanfare to make it happen.

Much of it was truly heavy lifting, as crews from Facilities Operations removed tons of furniture to reduce the number of students allowed in classrooms and common spaces. At the same time, they joined staff from Information Technology Services to install and activate \$1 million in new technology to give professors the tools they needed to successfully teach blended and online classes.

From a massive purchasing effort to locate needed supplies to building and installing 1,500 hand sanitizing stations in a matter of days, to supporting hundreds of training sessions for fac-

ulty and staff, there was little that these groups did not undertake to keep URI operational.

And with barely a break from the completion of the fall semester, they are at it again with the spring semester now underway. Praise for their work has come from all quarters.

“2020 was a year of learning while doing: we learned to work remotely, sanitize classrooms to the highest degree possible, set up testing centers, locate scarce supplies, maximize interior air circulation, deliver mail in a new way, create new traffic patterns, track specific types of expenditures for COVID-19 reimbursement, and rethink the way we do literally everything,” said Abigail Rider, vice president for Administration and Finance.

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Rhody Ram points out two of the almost 17,000 building signs put up in buildings to guide the campus community during the COVID-19 pandemic. URI photo by Nora Lewis

Volunteers Key to URI Community Testing Program

by Dave Lavallee

Wendy Bucci '87 is the chief operating officer for the URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement, which usually has little to do with the operational aspects of the University.

But in March 2020, Bucci didn't flinch when she was asked to turn the Foundation building's fundraising call center into a COVID-19 hotline as the University began announcing major decisions, including ending in-person classes after Spring Break. She became the site logistics coordinator, scheduling University staff from all over campus to take hundreds of calls and provide answers to worried parents and students.

It was during those first hectic months of the pandemic when the seeds of a movement began taking shape at URI. Hundreds of University employees from every administrative division not only continued to put in long, hard hours to do their own jobs, but volunteered for other jobs, such as working at University testing sites and the contact tracing center to ensure the University continued to thrive and serve its students.

Since that time, many continue to volunteer and their efforts were critical to resuming in-person classes and activities in the fall. They will be central to a successful spring semester. Health Services needed to expand its contact tracing team and location when the decision was made to do mass testing for 100% of the student population in late September. The University moved its contact tracing center on Sept. 25 to the Alumni Room at the Ryan Center and started mandatory testing for all students Oct. 5.

"We got the call Sept. 22 asking us if we could have the contact tracing center up by Sept. 25," Bucci said.

She and Cassie Whitworth, campus preparedness planner in Emergency Management, loaded 16 computers from the Foundation into a truck and drove them to the Ryan Center.

"The Ryan Center and University Information Technology Services teams were great, helping us place tables at safe distances," Bucci said.

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Dan Moos, one of the testing centers' site managers, brings supplies to senior nursing student **Ashley Philibert**. Numerous College of Nursing students have volunteered at the COVID-19 surveillance testing sites. URI photo by Dave Lavallee

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"We kept the University running smoothly and looking fabulous. I am very proud of the many, many ways, large and small, that our staff made it possible for the University to deliver an in-person semester of quality education to our students and for the University's important research to carry on. It's wonderful to be part of a tight-knit community like ours."

"We have six different facilities operations at URI's four campuses (including housing and dining), and we all needed to come together so that we could make purchases of hand sanitizers, sanitizing wipes, personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies more efficient," said Sam Adams, '23 Ph.D., director of Emergency Management. "We did that in so many areas, and staff members were great about crossing divisional lines."

For instance, Jeffrey Ulricksen, manager of space allocation and analysis, worked hand-in-hand with Adams, Dean Libutti, M.B.A. '95, vice provost for Enrollment Management, and a team of students in late summer to hand-count every classroom seat for distancing purposes and get each building fully and safely ready for students and faculty. Then it was on Ulricksen's team to move furniture and equipment to get to a safe number.

In addition, without increasing his 100-person custodial staff, Karl Calvo, assistant vice president for the Facilities Group, increased classroom cleanings from once to twice a day, including a once-daily cleaning with hydrostatic cleaners, which charge droplets that repel one another and then actively seek out and disinfect surfaces, coating all sides of desks, chairs and tables.

With the dining halls closed to in-person dining, trash started to build up in residence halls as more students brought their grab-and-go meals back to their rooms. Kathy Collins, vice president of Student Affairs, said it could have been a big problem if not for the support of Abigail Rider and David Lamb, '84, director of Facilities Operations, who marshaled their units to provide more frequent trash pickup.

Adams said Budget and Financial Planning Director Linda Barrett '73, and Purchasing Director Tracey Angell made sure the procurement process ran smoothly.

"No one ever denied a request I made," Adams said. "We avoided cash-flow bottlenecks."

"We were worried about getting (cleaning and sanitizing) supplies," Calvo said, "and about our custodians getting sick. Gloves and masks were a big deal. Some vendors never delivered, and we had to stay on that. But, we knew this was going to worsen, so we went out and bought a lot of supplies. We were a little bit ahead of the game."

On the Information Technology Services side, ITS Teaching and Learning Services, Service Desk and Audio Visual departments had a monster task before them even before the fall semester arrived. They helped all 700-plus, full-time teaching faculty move to remote learning in the span of two weeks as the University switched to all online learning after spring break 2020.

Then, with Bob Viens, associate director of community computer services, and Mark Oliver, '85, M.B.A. '07, an ITS manager, at the helm, they went from that effort to working long days, including weekends, to support multiple initiatives and train about 2,000 (faculty and staff participants) on Webex and Zoom remote conferencing tools in preparation for the fall. The audio visual team and its facilities partner did not take a day off all summer as they converted classrooms for the fall semester.

They did all this while transitioning from the Sakai learning management system to Brightspace, migrating students to a new email domain that linked with Brightspace, rolling out a new URI mobile app, moving to a fully virtual service desk and rolling out a completely revamped main IT website.

ITS, with assistance from the web team in Marketing and Communications, also launched its new COVID-19 website in 48 hours, which had about 5,000 hits in its first week.

Katie Babula '11, manager of the AV department of ITS, said the University accelerated its 21st Century Classroom initiative and installed the latest technology in 110 classrooms, which allows teachers to either stream lectures to students who choose to learn remotely, but also allows teachers to teach from home or the classroom and share that lesson simultaneously with the classroom.

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roles, including Dr. Christopher Nasin, Health Services medical director. Not only was he the chief medical professional, involved with testing, patient care, isolation and quarantine, he was also deployed during the pandemic by the Air National Guard to support the Rhode Island response.

“But I must add that all of the planning would not have mattered if the students by and large did not comply with the COVID-19 prevention guidance,” Reynolds said. “If you walked around campus, students were wearing masks, social distancing. It was an overwhelming response by our students.”

Reynolds was also heartened by students’ attitudes when they tested positive.

“They asked about and were concerned about the health and safety of their friends and roommates,” Reynolds said. “They were worried that they might have infected their professors. They were so concerned about others rather than themselves.”

‘The most difficult decisions’

Kathy Collins, vice president for Student Affairs, and her team dealt with the University’s agonizing decision to reduce the size of the fall population in campus residence halls by 2,000. That meant telling students who already had housing contracts that there wouldn’t be room for them.

“These were the hardest, most difficult decisions, they were painful for students and for us,” Collins said. “Many returning students thought we valued them less than our first-year students.”

But she said every decision was made to keep students, faculty and staff as safe as possible. She called Pierre St-Germain, director of Dining and Retail Food Services, and Frankie Minor, director of Housing and Residential Life, the “unsung heroes.”

“Frankie spent countless hours on the phone with students who were displaced from housing, as well as their parents. He responded to hundreds if not thousands of emails. And through it all, I kept hearing these kinds of comments, ‘I talked to that nice man who is in charge of housing.’”

She said St-Germain and his team fed the on-

campus student population and those in quarantine and isolation in nearby hotels using just one dining hall and one retail site. The University also set up tents so students could dine together safely outside.

“We had 100 people in one building preparing food so students could grab and go,” Collins said. “There was no eating in the dining halls. So we had to get creative. Catering staff became the team to deliver meals to the students in isolation and quarantine in local hotels. It came up with great meals and responded to every student’s dietary restrictions.”

Collins said some staff members had no days off during the fall semester, “and I am sure that is true for many across the University.”

As various crises arose with students, the University rose up to meet their needs.

“The Counseling Center was very busy,” she said. “The University had to support students who did not have computers so they could learn remotely, and given the economic impact on families and students, we were helping students with food insecurity. This pandemic hit our students hard in so many ways.”

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at

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URInformed**

Fall Campus Return...continued from page 3

“I can’t count the number of Webex sessions in which I saw faculty members’ children in the background or asking a question of mom or dad,” DeHayes said. “It was nice to be able to meet our faculty’s family members and, for just a few moments, get a small preview into their lives beyond the University. With all of these issues going on in people’s lives, I never saw anyone step back from their responsibilities as a teacher, a scholar, a facilities worker, a staff member. Everyone stepped up, and I am very grateful for their efforts.”

Volunteers...continued from page 9

“We also provided masks and sanitizing materials. We were ready to go Sept. 25.”

When the call went out campus-wide for volunteers to help with mandatory and surveillance testing, more than 150 people signed up.

Working closely with Jennifer Hodshon, associate director of Health Services and operations section chief for COVID-19 testing at the University, Bucci connected with Dan Moos, assistant to Abigail Rider, vice president for Administration and Finance, to help with the testing centers. Bucci coordinated the volunteers and Moos served as one of the testing centers' site managers.

“It really takes a village to pull something of this magnitude off and that’s exactly what happened,” Hodshon said. “We all came together for a common cause and we did it. I am proud to be part of such a dedicated and talented team, and I know that we will continue working together to keep our community members safe and healthy during the spring semester.”

On any given day, University community members going for self-administered, asymptomatic tests at the Memorial Union could be greeted by the smiling, but masked, faces of Joanne Esposito and Paula Santos, '74, M.P.A. '80, specialists in the Office of University Events; Ashley Frezza, '16, event assistant; Jodi Hawkins, director of Campus Recreation; Maureen McCarthy, associate athletic director and member of the Ryan Center team in charge of ticketing; Dean Libutti, '95 M.B.A., vice provost for enrollment management; Laura Kenerson, '73, M.P.A. '79, director of personnel services; Christine Boettger, '95, M.O.A. '17, business analyst in the Facilities Group, Lara Fayanjuola, executive assistant to the dean of students; Jennifer Whitworth, coordinator, medical billing and Insurance; Jennifer Strollo, coordinator, nursing services, Jackie Nowell, and dozens more.

They sit behind protective plastic shields explaining how to administer the test, how to sanitize correctly before and after the test. “It has become a fine-tuned machine, and now we have the mechanics in place to continue our robust testing program and launch a vaccination program,” Bucci said.

“I had wonderful help from Maureen McCarthy from the Ryan Center and Cassie Whitworth

in Emergency Management,” Moos said. “Between 50 and 100 people have been volunteering regularly. We have been able to do upwards of 1,500 tests a day, and we have done it primarily with volunteers,” Moos said.

In addition, Moos continues to oversee nursing students completing clinical rotations at the testing sites.

“A big part of the job at the testing centers is how you greet people, how you make them feel comfortable,” Moos said. “I always get concerned when I see a line of people at the door, but I am then quite happy when a student or staff member tells me she has waited only 5 minutes. At least once a day, people find me to thank me and tell me this was really great.”



URInformed Word Search Winner

Congratulations to **Christine Sullivan, Office of the Controller!** Please contact Shawn Simmons in the Provost's Office (4-4410) to claim your prize.

Check out the Word Search on page 7!

Personnel Script

Job Opportunities

The classified and non-classified application process is now automated so that you can apply on-line for positions here at the University. You will also be able to review the status of your application during the recruitment process, update your on-line application, and apply for positions that become available in the future. For the job opportunities visit:

<https://jobs.uri.edu>

We Welcome the Following People to our Community...

Ethan Adler (Hum Development & Family Studies); Cathy Azzoli (Dean Nursing); Jenna Briggs (Languages); Alaina Capasso (Small Business Development Ctr); Penny Carrol (Instructional Development Pgm); Brittany Casey (Physical Therapy); Ohbyong Chae (Chemistry); Sumanth Chereddy (Chemistry); Sasha Crowley (Online Learning & Teaching); Renea Cuthill (Health Services); Korissa Davis (Dining Board Operations); Edcel Alexandre Dinoro (Learning & Assistance Center); Amanda Dowst (Research Office); Devin Dufresne (Landscape & Grounds Maintenance); Nicholas Englehart (Environmental Health & Safety); Carolyn Evangeline (Communicative Disorders); Megan Ewing (Languages); Jason Fahy (GSO Research); Louis Folco (Kingston Library); Lisa Hiwaski (CELS Academic Unit 2); Laura Holland (GSO Research); Heather Hopkins (CELS Academic Unit 1); Karen Hudson (Psychology); Ryan Hughes (Landscape & Grounds Maintenance); Nyla Husain (GSO Research); Keisuke Inomura (GSO Faculty); Yeonho Jeong (Elec, Computer & Bio Engr); Ellen Kelley (Dean Arts & Sciences); Michelle Kelly (Nursing Instruction); Gaurav Khanna (Info Tech Services); Alexander Knyshev (CELS Academic Unit 3); Jessica Kownacki (Public Safety Administration); Katlyn LaBella (Women's Soccer); John Lima (Health Services); Marin Manuel (Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sc); Courtney McGrath (Bookstore); Benjamin Moore (Custodial Services); David Moore (Environmental Health & safety); Tolani Olagundoye (Dean Environmental & Life Sci-

ence); Jason Oliveira (Dining Board Operations); Lynn Owens (Board of Trustees); Animesh Pan (Chemical Engineering); Quanzhen Peng (Dining Board Operations); Meagan Pepper (CELS Academic Unit 3); David Perez Garza (Dining Café Operations); McHale Perkins (Univ Coll for Academic Success); Alexis Piccirillo (Psychology); Johan Rotterova (GSO Research); Cherie Rowe (Global Initiatives); Daniel Ruggiero (CELS Academic Unit 3); S. Adam Soule (GSO Faculty); Samantha Stachurski (Custodial Services); David Sterling (GSO Marine Office); Jackson Sugar (GSO Research); Margaret Teasdale (Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sci); Michael Tilelli (CELS Academic Unit 3); John Tomasso (Police); Darska Udawatte (CELS Academic Unit 3); Suzanne Varhol (Health Services); Aidan Votaw (Enrollment Services); Nicole Wagner (Police); Vincent Williams (Athletics Strength Condition).

... and Say Goodbye to ...

Nancy Gronstrom (Parking Services); Rachel Leveillee (Academic Testing Center); M. Julia Iacono (Research Office); Ronald Bennett (Custodial Services); Rafael Nightingale (Landscape & Grounds Maintenance); Brian Smith (Emergency Management); Ashley Cooper (Dean Nursing); Maureen Barnes (Janitorial Services); Michael O'Rourke (HRL M&R Facilities); Salah Seddik (Graduate School); Cheryl Vanluven (Dining Board Operations); Dennis Hazard (Custodial Services); Francoise Morison (GSO Research); Devin McKnight (Dining Board Operations); Kyle Sidlik (Communications & Marketing); Modak Tejashree (CELS Academic Unit 3); Robert Palmisano (Janitorial Services); Gerald Kagan (Chemistry); Barbara Payne (CELS Academic Unit 3); Wales Carter (CELS Academic Unit 3); Xuanyu Chen (GSO Research); Matthew Marwell (Police); Danielle Jorge (CELS Academic Unit 1); Paul Carvalho (CELS Academic Unit 1); Anthony Sylvester (Undergraduate Admissions); Clayton Graham (CELS Academic Unit 20); Jesse Metzger (Counseling Center); Cassidy Need (Landscape & Grounds Maintenance); Weishu Zhao (CELS Academic Unit

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3); Linda Murray (Dean Environment & Life Science); Casey Hogan (Custodial Services); Jenna Kalwa (Women's Soccer); Dinesh Dhamecha (Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sc); Chase Campbell (Athletics Strength Condition); Nikita Francis (Ryan Institute Neuroscience); Lindsay Grim (Dining Board Operations); Joanne Hall (Elec, Computer & Bio Engr); Daniel Ronkin (HRL M&R Facilities); Jennifer Whitford (Dining Board Operations); Jongjung Kim (Chemistry); Melanie Bowdish (DataSpark); Patrick Duryea (Pharmacy Practice); Peter Nye (CEPS Strategic Initiatives); Alyson White (Dining Board Operations); Joseph Gabriel (Custodial Services); Robert Tiernan (Maintenance & Repair); Deidre Martinez (Dining Board Operations); Jared McKenna (Custodial Services); Katherine Anderson (Languages).

... and Best Wishes To Those Who Retired

Andrew Clapham (Chemistry); Louise Richmond (Info Tech services); Louis Sacoccio (General Counsel); E. Mark Davis (Maintenance & Repair); Jeannette McKay (Kingston Library); Diana Delsesto (Health Services); Ronald Levesque (Custodial Services); Antonio Sciola (Maintenance & Repair); Gary Hazard (HRL Facilities); Theresa Pierson (Sponsored & Cost Accounting); Patricia Vartanian (Human Resource Administration); Annette Hillman (Research Office); Debra Ferriss (Custodial Services); Karen Tracey (GSO Research); William Ohley (Elec, Computer & Bio Engr); Everett McMunn (GSO Marine Office); Donald Lapp (Maintenance & Repair); Norma Owens (Dean Pharmacy); Dennis Nixon (GSO Rhode Island Sea Grant); Gitahi Gititi (English); Najih Lazar (GSO Coastal Resources Center); Edward Bozzi (CELS Academic Unit 3); Roy Jones (Enrollment Services); Michelle Caraccia (English); Rosemary Lavigne (Disability Services Student); Katherine Paquette (Nursing Instruction); Lawrence Creegan (Custodial Services); John Morgan (GSO Receiving/Stockroom).

In Memoriam

- ❖ Paul Cohen, Professor Emeritus, Cell & Molecular Biology
- ❖ Edward Davis, Facilities, Providence



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“This was a prime example of how the University advanced through the crisis while maintaining its strategic focus,” said Karlis Kaugars, chief information officer and head of Information Technology Services. “This advanced the president’s goal of the 21st century learning environment by leaps and bounds.”

“We had to do design, procurement, installation, programming and training in about two months,” Babula said. “The team worked weekends, holidays, and many long days.”

Michelle Rogers-Estable, director of Teaching and Learning Services, said the volume of technology and training support provided to faculty and staff could get overwhelming.

“Not only did we have to start supporting four times as many people using our systems, but we had to support four times as many people who needed help getting migrated over or moving content over or getting used to a new system,” Rogers-Estable said.

Kaugars said every member of the ITS team put great effort into assisting faculty, staff and students during the spring and fall semesters. In addition to the team members mentioned earlier, they include: Terry Wild '87, M.B.A. '03, manager of the Service Desk; Michael Khalfayan, chief information security officer; Donna Belden '77, associate director of administrative computing systems; Mike Motta M.O.A. '09, associate director of IT service administration; Cathy White, lead programmer analyst; and Mark Fester, associate director, networking.

Public Information Officers Dawn Bergantino and Tony LaRoche contributed to this story.

Cook's Corner

Share your favorite recipes in the Cook's Corner

Mushroom and Pepper Frittata with Tomato Basil

Ingredients:

Cooking spray 4 spray(s)
Uncooked shallot(s) 1/2 cup(s), sliced
Cremini mushroom(s) 1/2 cup(s), sliced
Uncooked bell pepper(s) 1 1/2 cup(s), mixed variety, chopped
Minced garlic 1 tsp
Kosher salt 1/2 tsp.
Basil 3 Tbsp, fresh, divided
Egg(s) 15 large, beaten
or 16 oz. container of egg whites and 5 whole eggs
Grape tomatoes 3/4 cup (s), halved

Directions:

1). Preheat oven to 350°F. Be sure to use an ovenproof pan for this dish since it starts on the stovetop but then goes into the oven to finish cooking. For extra flavor, sprinkle the frittata with goat cheese or feta before transferring it to the oven.

2). Coat an omelet pan with cooking spray; heat over medium heat. Add shallot, mushrooms, and peppers; cook, stirring often, until vegetables soften, 5 minutes. Stir in garlic, salt, and 1 Tbsp basil; cook for 30 seconds.

3). Pour eggs into skillet; cook until bottom begins to set, 2-3 minutes. Place skillet in oven; bake until top is set, 8-10 minutes. Cut into 6 wedges; serve topped with tomatoes and remaining 2 Tbsp basil.

Serving size: 1 wedge

Total Time: 0:33

Prep: 0:15

Cook: 0:18

Serves: 6



Lemon Chicken Breasts

Ingredients:

1/4 cup good olive oil
3 tablespoons minced garlic (9 cloves)
1/3 cup dry white wine
1 tablespoon grated lemon zest (2 lemons)
2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice
1 1/2 teaspoons dried oregano
1 teaspoon minced fresh thyme leaves
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
4 boneless chicken breasts, skin on (6 to 8 ounces each)
1 lemon

Directions

1).Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

2).Warm the olive oil in a small saucepan over medium-low heat, add the garlic, and cook for just 1 minute but don't allow the garlic to turn brown. Off the heat, add the white wine, lemon zest, lemon juice, oregano, thyme, and 1 teaspoon salt and pour into a 9 by 12-inch baking dish.

3).Pat the chicken breasts dry and place them skin side up over the sauce. Brush the chicken breasts with olive oil and sprinkle them liberally with salt and pepper. Cut the lemon in 8 wedges and tuck it among the pieces of chicken.

4).Bake for 30 to 40 minutes, depending on the size of the chicken breasts, until the chicken is done and the skin is lightly browned. If the chicken isn't browned enough, put it under the broiler for 2 minutes. Cover the pan tightly with aluminum foil and allow to rest for 10 minutes. Sprinkle with salt and serve hot with the pan juices.

- Level: Easy
- Total: 1 hr
- Prep: 15 min
- Inactive: 10 min
- Cook: 35 min
- Yield: 4 servings



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