

URI Informed

THE URI EMPLOYEES' NEWSLETTER

Vol. 30 Issue 2

WINTER 2022

COVID-19 Spring Semester Information

As we look forward to the start of our spring semester, we know many of you have questions about our plans given the recent surge in COVID-19 cases associated with the Omicron variant.

The University is planning for in-person classes to begin January 24, with courses offered as scheduled in e-campus according to their Faculty Senate approved modality. Our start date, compared to other institutions in the region, provides some additional time to evaluate conditions in Rhode Island and in our University community as we continue to monitor cases with the Rhode Island Department of Health.

To continue to safeguard the health and well-being of our entire community and to ensure the best in-person experience possible for our students, here is what you need to know:

VACCINATIONS/BOOSTERS

The University is requiring all eligible faculty, staff, and students to provide proof that they are vaccinated and have also received their vaccine booster shots. COVID-19 vaccines and booster shots are widely available, safe, greatly limit the transmission of

by Dave Lavallee

the virus, and have been shown to nearly eliminate the chance of death or serious illness related to a COVID-19 infection. Please upload your proof of vaccination to Health Services via the patient portal by the start of classes.

Those who are not yet eligible to receive a vaccine booster will have 30 days after eligibility to upload proof. We will offer vaccination clinics on campus on January 25 and February 1. It is our strongest recommendation that you receive your booster prior to your arrival on campus to ensure you are fully protected, given the limited number of vaccine appointments available. Please click here for a list of vaccination clinics.

The University understands that completion of a booster may have been affected by many issues, including a COVID diagnosis and access; therefore no student, faculty, or staff member will be denied access to campus at the start of the spring semester. The University will, however, be tracking compliance and will reach out to those individuals who remain non-compliant and work with them to meet the COVID-19

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THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND



URInformed

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If you have a suggestion for an article about a co-worker or colleague, or perhaps information about an event, or simply have an interest in being involved with the newsletter, you may send your request to:

URInformed, 73 Upper College Road,
Kingston Campus
or contact us by e-mail at:
NGillespie@uri.edu

The editorial board reserves the right to select the material printed and to edit it to conform to space restrictions.

Please get involved! This is your newsletter and we need your support to make it work.

URI is an equal opportunity employer committed to the principles of affirmative action and values diversity.

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booster requirement. Students who remain out of compliance may be referred to student conduct and be prohibited from registering for courses for the fall semester. Employees will be referred to Human Resources.

RETURNING TO CAMPUS

All returning students, regardless of vaccination status, must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 point-of-origin test no more than 72 hours prior to their arrival on campus or back to the community. Rapid and at-home tests will be accepted but need to be no more than 48 hours from arrival. Students must upload their point-of-origin test results showing name and date, including an image of a home test with name and date, to Health Services via the **patient portal** <<https://uri.medicatconnect.com/>

auth.aspx>. Students unable to obtain a test in their home community and who live within driving distance may visit the URI Testing Center in the Memorial Union, which will re-open Tuesday, January 18. Please check the Health Services website for the current testing schedule.

MASKS

The University will continue to enforce a universal indoor mask mandate for all faculty, staff, students, and visitors on campus, regardless of vaccination status. All faculty, staff, students, and visitors are required to universally wear a mask indoors in all URI buildings and vehicles, except when eating/drinking or in a private office space. We strongly recommend surgical or higher grade masks in all indoor campus spaces. Masks should be properly worn, well-fitting, and high quality.

SYMPTOMATIC AND SURVEILLANCE TESTING ON CAMPUS

Given the increased demand for testing and longer wait times both for tests and test results due to the spread of the Omicron variant, students and employees who are symptomatic will be prioritized for testing to ensure that anyone who is infectious can quickly be identified and isolated under the new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. Vaccinated faculty, staff, and students may, but are not required to, participate in the COVID-19 surveillance testing program on campus.

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URI Lifetime Service Awards

by Dave Lavallee

Since 2013, the University of Rhode Island has been honoring individuals who have dedicated their work lives to serving URI. Each year, during a formal induction ceremony, the University congratulates and thanks its retiring staff and faculty members who have been employed at the University for 40 years or more. Each new member is recognized and commemorative bricks, engraved with the retiree's name and years of service, are placed in the patio of the Robert L. Carothers Library and Learning Commons. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2020 Lifetime Service Society Induction Ceremony did not take place. This year's ceremony was held on Friday, December 3, 2021, to honor Inductees from 2020 and 2021.

2021 INDUCTEES (retired as of December 2020)

Stephen L. Granger, Marine Research Associate, Graduate School of Oceanography • 40 years

Jeffrey E. Jarrett, Professor, College of Business • 49 years

Galen A. Johnson, Professor, Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences • 44 years

Charles Kaufman, Professor, Physics, College of Arts and Sciences • 56 years

Steven M. Kay, Professor, Electrical, Computer and Biomedical Engineering, College of Engineering • 40 years

Roger A. Lebrun, Professor, Plant Sciences, College of The Environment and Life Sciences • 43 years

James O. Prochaska, PhD, Professor, Cancer Prevention, College of Health Sciences • 51 years

Antonio J. Sciola, Mechanical and Electrical Shop Supervisor, Facility Services • 70 years

2020 INDUCTEES (retired as of December 2019)

David H. Abedon, Professor, Education Specialist, College of the Environment and Life Sciences • 46 years

Gary T. Boden*, Senior Information Technologist, Institutional Research • 43 years

James F. Cacciola, Assistant Controller, Payroll, Office of the Controller • 45 years

Louis J. Kirschenbaum, Professor, Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences • 49 years

Shmuel Mardix*, Professor, Electrical, Computer & Biomedical Engineering, College of Engineering • 49 years

Thomas D. Morin*, Professor, Languages, College of Arts and Sciences • 43 years

Marcia A. Morreira, 4-H State Program Leader, URI Cooperative Extension, College of the Environment and Life Sciences • 48 years

James J. Opaluch, Professor, Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, College of the Environment and Life Sciences • 40 years

Lori F. Pivarnik, Coordinator, Nutrition and Food Sciences, College of the Environment and Life Sciences • 42 years

Charles T. Schifino*, Director, University Computing Systems, Information Technology Services • 49 years

Wayne B. Sherman, Senior Maintenance Technician, Facilities Operations • 40 years

Jay Singer, Professor, Communicative Disorders, College of Health Sciences • 42 years

John F. Vanner, Associate Director, Athletics Administration • 40 years

Fritz K. Wenisch*, Professor, Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences • 48 years

Sze C. Yang, Professor, Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences • 40 years

**Posthumous*



Spring Covid Info...*continued from page 2*

Those students and employees who have received an approved COVID-19 vaccine exemption are **REQUIRED** to test once a week. Testing on campus is recommended and is available at no cost; however, those who test at an outside site can upload their test results to the patient portal <<https://uri.medicatconnect.com/auth.aspx>>. Any student who does not comply with the mandatory COVID-19 testing requirement will be immediately referred to the Dean of Students office and given ONE official WARNING about their missed test. Students who receive a warning must complete a COVID-19 test within 24 hours. Testing will be conducted in the Memorial Union, Atrium 1 beginning Tuesday, January 18. Please visit the Health Services website for the most up-to-date surveillance testing schedule. Any employee who does not comply with mandatory testing will be contacted by Human Resources.

Symptomatic testing will continue to be available 7 days a week at URI Health Services for students and employees. Students and employees who are experiencing symptoms should **NOT** go to class/work until they have received a negative test; or if they test positive, after they have completed the required isolation period. Those who test positive for COVID-19 should follow updated isolation guidelines from the Rhode Island Department of Health and CDC. Please visit the Health Services website for the most up-to-date symptomatic testing schedule.

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

We want to remind community members that four ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are: Get vaccinated; wear a well-fitting mask indoors even if you are vaccinated; do not come to campus if you are ill or exhibiting any of the symptoms of COVID-19; and maintain distance whenever possible in social settings and limit your number of personal contacts.

Thank you to all those community members who have been vaccinated for your commitment to a healthy and safe URI community. We will continue to provide updates and adjust these requirements and guidelines as conditions change and as we see new guidance from the CDC and the Rhode Island Department of Health.

Pets Corner Invitation

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



Skipper is our golden retriever who will be 12 in May. Skipper loves going for boat rides and going to work every day with his "dad". If you see a handsome golden in a gray pick up truck on campus, it may just be Skipper. His dad is an electrical contractor who works for URI on occasion. -- **Kathie McKinstry, Printing Services**



URI Kingston Campus

M T X I L L E T I C S A F
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| 1. Alumni Ctr | 10. Fascitelli | 18. Quad |
| 2. Avedisian | 11. Foundation | 19. Ryan Ctr |
| 3. Ballentine | 12. Green | 20. SSRC |
| 4. Beaupre | 13. Library | 21. Swan |
| 5. Bliss | 14. Keaney | 22. Taft |
| 6. Bookstore | 15. Kirk | 23. Tootell |
| 7. Chafee | 16. Mackal | 24. Welcome Ctr |
| 8. East | 17. Memorial | 25. White Hall |
| 9. EMS | Union | |

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 _____

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...

Daniel Apodaca (Athletics Strength Condition), Marc Baglini (Dining Cafe Operations), Katherine Beagan (State Crime Lab), Edwige Bellier (CELS Academic Unit 2), Abby Benson (President's Office), William Burns Jr (Physical Therapy), Dolores Cook (Dean Engineering), Kadambari Devarajan (CELS Academic Unit 2), Rebecca Dickens (Dining Catering Operations), Hayley Giorgio (Dean Nursing), George Grandolfi (Dean Pharmacy), Alden Gustafson (CELS Academic Unit 3), Sara Hanson (Dean Pharmacy), Tyler Hastedt (Athletics Marketing), William Johnson (Dining Board Operations), Douglas Kissick (Dining Board Operations), Caitlyn Lamb (Psychological Testing), Cecelia Leser (Dining Board Operations), Kayla Lombardi (Human Resource Administration), Aysha Moreino (Multicultural Center), Jonathan Mullen (Dean Nursing), Keri Newman (GSO Grant Management Support), Christopher North (Maintenance & Repair), Nekehia Quashie (Health Studies), Matthew Simeone (Facilities Other - Utilities), Naomi Siravo (Health Services), Riccardo Sirtori (Ryan Institute Neuroscience), Melissa Sutherland (Nursing Instruction), Lisa Townson (Dean Environment & Life Science), David Townson (CELS Academic Unit 1), Hongjie Wang (GSO Faculty), Munaiah Yeddala (Chemistry), Marjorie Zwolinski (Dining Board Operations)

... and Say Goodbye to ...

Gifty Ako-Adounvo (Provost for Academic Affairs), Nathan Archer (CELS Academic Unit 2),

Mary Beth Arnold (Human Resource Administration), Edmund Arthur (Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sc), Alvin Bach II (Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sciences), Stephen Barnabe (Health Services), Susan Barrett (ATC - Academic Testing Center), Joseph Berardi (Dean of Students Office), Christina Calbi (Dining Cafe Operations), Cynthia Candon (Counseling Center), Ronald Catchings (GSO Marine Office), Teresa Doughty (ASF CCE Child Development Center), Eric Engstrume (Custodial Services), David Figgins (HRL Security), Andrew Folan (Landscape & Grounds Maintenance), Keegan Hart (CELS Academic Unit 1), Valerie Hupf (Health Services), Kathleen Lacroix (General Accounting), Deborah Lafen (Small Business Development Center), Sarah Lerch (CELS Academic Unit 3), Eric Lundh (Fire Life Safety), Jessica Meuleners (Nutrition & Food Sciences), Benjamin Moore (Custodial Services), Gina Morris (Psychological Testing), James Patti (GSO Dean), William Rayder (GSO Marine Office), Hannah Reich (CELS Academic Unit 3), Denise Sipolski (Dining Board Operations), Brian Smith (Communicative Disorders), Walter Vinci (CEPS Strategic Initiatives), Jie Wang (Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sciences), John Watson (Harrington School), Cassandra Whitworth (Emergency Management), Natalie Wong (Summer/Winter Session Admin)

... and Best Wishes To Those Who Retired

Kathleen Castro (CELS Academic Unit 1), Lori Derita (Dining Board Operations), Beth Harrison (Dining Board Operations), Dianne Lachapelle (Dining Cafe Operations), Robert Sand (GSO Computer/Copy Center)

URInformed is now on the Web
at
<http://web.uri.edu/urinformed/>

**Browse the current issue of
URInformed**

Cook's Corner

Share your favorite recipes in the Cook's Corner

Spinach, Crab, and Artichoke Dip

Ingredients:

- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sour cream
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup mayonnaise
- 1 tsp Old Bay seasoning
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp worcestershire sauce
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup shredded parmesan
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup shredded cheddar
- 10 oz (1 package) frozen chopped spinach, thawed and well drained
- 14 oz (1 can) artichoke hearts, drained well and chopped
- 8 oz lump blue crab meat, picked through for shells
- toasted baguette, crackers, and veggies, for serving

Directions:

- 1). Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- 2). To a mixing bowl, add cream cheese, sour cream, mayonnaise, Old Bay, worcestershire, and all 3 cheeses.
- 3). Mix well until fully combined. Squeeze as much liquid as possible out of the spinach and artichokes, then add them to the bowl along with the crab meat.
- 4). Mix gently to fully combine. Transfer the mix to a 2 qt baking dish.
- 5). Bake for 25-30 mins until golden and bubbly around the edges.
- 6). Serve with toasted baguette, crackers, and veggies.



Tips:

*You can prep this dip the night before and bake it the next day. Transfer the mix to the serving dish as directed, cover with foil, and refrigerate. When you're ready to bake it, bring the dish out of the fridge and remove the foil while the oven preheats. The bake time will remain the same.

*Make sure to get regular artichoke hearts and not marinated for this recipe.

*Leftovers can be stored in the fridge for up to 3-4 days. This dip reheats really well.

by Nicole - The Yummy Muffin



Skipper loves going for boat rides! (See page 4).
Kathie McKinstry, Printing Services

URInformed Word Search Winner

Congratulations to **Nancy Pendergast** from **Enrollment Services!**

Please contact Shawn Simmons in the Provost's Office (4-4410) to claim your prize.

Check out the Word Search on page 5!

THE
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THINK BIG  WE DOSM

URInformed

The URI Employees' Newsletter
73 Upper College Road, Kingston Campus

