

Subject: August 12 Campus Update
Date: Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 10:17:41 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Sandra A. Gadde
Attachments: image001.jpg



Dear colleagues,

I hope your summer is going well. It's hard to believe it's already August, and that some students are already moving in. I'm looking forward to welcoming back all students in just a couple of short weeks.

I would like to thank all of you who have filled out the [vaccine status form](#) online. I am grateful for the efforts you have taken to help keep our campus community safe.

Although we are past the previous deadline for submission, we are still in need of the information. If you haven't done so already, please submit your response as soon as possible. This information assists the college in assessing our current rate of vaccination on campus and informs future policy and recommendations.

As you know, we continue to monitor the situation regarding COVID-19 and the Delta variant. We are currently planning to open campus as we would have prior to the pandemic, including in-person instruction, athletics, and extracurricular activities. Any changes to that plan will be based on guidance from state and local health officials. I will continue to communicate any changes to these plans to the entire campus community.

Visit the [Plaid Protects website](#) at alma.edu for more information, including frequently asked questions.

Pre-register for 2020 Commencement Ceremony

The 2020 Commencement Ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 19 at 1 p.m. At this time, we have more than 80 graduates returning for the event, and we are excited that we are finally able to celebrate their accomplishments in person.

In preparation for our COVID-19 prevention measures and event planning we need to know who will be in attendance. Faculty and staff are welcome to attend, but must pre-register. Please note, there will not be a full faculty procession and faculty do not need to dress in academic regalia. Please respond to the survey at this address by Thursday, Aug. 19 if you plan to attend:

https://alma.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5oIMVBwldh8ZXZs

Fall conference and picnic

I look forward to bringing the campus community together for fall conference in a couple of weeks. This year's conference will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 24 (faculty and staff) and 25 (faculty only) at the Remick Heritage Center. The campus community picnic is scheduled for Aug. 24 at 6 p.m., at the Tracy House.

Two Student Affairs offices have relocated within Tyler-Van Dusen

The Diversity and Inclusion Office has moved into the space formerly occupied by Residence Life, which is located off the hallway outside the Center for Student Opportunity. The Residence Life team has moved into the Center for Student Opportunity. With this move, the Diversity and Inclusion Office will have a more visible and convenient location and provide a safe space for our students from underrepresented backgrounds to gather and connect with each other, as well as college staff.

Online time entry has begun

Hourly employees may now enter their hours worked online, as online time entry has launched at Alma College following a successful beta testing.

Hourly employees have been contacted about this switch from our previous manual system. Effective Sept. 1, we will no longer utilize paper timecards or spreadsheets. If you have any questions about the new process, please contact Heidi Holland at (989) 463-7318 or hollandh@alma.edu.

Fall term events

Our online [events calendar](#) is a central hub of information where students, faculty, and staff can get the latest information on events on campus. As we approach the fall term, I'd like to encourage us all to keep using the calendar to continue informing the community about events taking place on campus.

To view a tutorial on how to post your own events, visit this web page:

<https://www.alma.edu/live/files/3871-campus-calendar-instructions-and-best-practices>. If you need assistance, please contact the Communication and Marketing Office at (989) 463-7327.

Alma in the news

- [Alma College Board of Trustees welcomes five new members](#) (Morning Sun)
- [Finding 'tenacity' in text](#) (Morning Sun)
- [Women Leaders Podcast, Episode 109: Sarah Dehring](#) (Women Leaders in College Sports)
- [Why America is losing international students](#) (Chronicle of Higher Education)