



April 26, 2021

To: Wabash Community
From: President Scott Feller and Dr. Ann Taylor
Re: Community Update for April 19, 2021

“If you don’t like the weather, wait five minutes” was very true on campus last week. The juxtaposition of snow on flowering trees might be a good analogy for where we stand with COVID this week: we see the promise of summer and vaccinations coming, but winter and COVID-19 are still with us.

We celebrate a return to 0% positivity on surveillance testing last week, but symptoms of COVID fatigue have us nervous – several students missed their testing appointments last week. Additionally, COVID Pass app completion continues to follow a pattern where usage begins strong each week, but falls to unacceptable levels by Friday. It is critical that we not drop our mitigation strategies, including testing, while we build individual and herd immunity from vaccination. COVID fatigue is real, but so is the threat of infection.

Our eyes are on the prize of having no one in quarantine or isolation for final exams, and an in-person Commencement Ceremony to recognize the classes of 2020 and 2021. Becoming infected with COVID at this point means you may miss these milestone events while in isolation, and those you are in contact will miss them while in quarantine. We must fight all the way through the finish line.

Our second vaccination clinic is **this Friday, April 30**. Everyone who participated received an appointment for their second shot at the first clinic and will need to bring their vaccination card with them. Students, employees, and dependents who didn’t receive a first dose can still sign up to receive one this week by contacting Susan Albrecht or emailing vaccine@wabash.edu. The second dose is key to sustained immunity, and both doses are required to be considered fully vaccinated. Those receiving their first dose on Friday will receive an appointment for their second dose off-campus.

When we began writing these letters in August, we did it with the intent of sharing important information about the health status of campus and what we had learned that week that might help us all make responsible decisions to protect ourselves and those around us. That guidance, such as doing the 3 W’s and avoiding the 3 C’s, has been the same for all of us. In a few weeks, as the majority of us become fully vaccinated, we will enter a period of [more challenging](#) decisions when some will be vaccinated while others are not. We encourage you to continue doing the right things to protect those who are still not vaccinated even after you have accomplished full vaccination.

With gratitude for you and all you bring to campus,

President Scott Feller
Ann Taylor, Special Assistant to the President for COVID Response and Planning

