GUIDANCE FOR OPERATING THE UNH MCNAIR SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM DURING COVID-19

In an effort to promote safety and wellness during the 2021 Summer Research Fellowship Program, the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair Scholars Program) at the University of New Hampshire created this protocol document to help student participants, faculty mentors, summer staff and instructors understand our operations this summer during COVID-19.

Please carefully read our safety guidelines below.

1. STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

A. The 13 summer participants are all registered UNH undergraduates and will be on campus during the summer. All student participants:

   i. Were informed via email that they must test for COVID-19 prior to returning to campus and present a valid Wildcat Pass to staff when they either move into Congreve Hall on June 6th (for those living on campus) or attend the Summer Orientation on June 7th (for those living off campus). For more information about how to obtain testing kits and to submit your test, please visit https://www.unh.edu/coronavirus/durham-covid-19-summer-testing-updates.

   ii. Must test and submit test sample weekly, anytime between Monday-Thursday at any of the on campus drop boxes, even if they are fully vaccinated.

   iii. Must present a valid Wildcat Pass to participate in all weekly in-person classes, social events, cultural events, and other in-person activities during the summer program.

B. Student participants registered to live on-campus:

   i. Were informed via email that they must test for COVID-19 prior to move in and present a valid Wildcat Pass to the summer graduate peer advisors when they arrive for check in at Congreve Hall.
ii. If a student does not present a valid Wildcat Pass at check in, they risk not being able to check in to Congreve Hall until they are able to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours or a valid Wildcat Pass.

iii. Follow the UNH Housing Campus Safety Protocols and remain compliant while living in Congreve for the duration of the summer program. To learn more, please visit: https://www.unh.edu/housing/about/covid-19-updates.

2. STAFF, INSTRUCTORS & FACULTY MENTORS

A. There are currently a total of 7 summer McNair staff who are in the University of New Hampshire testing pool. All summer McNair staff:

   i. Must test and submit a test sample weekly, anytime between Monday-Thursday at any of the on campus drop boxes, even if they are fully vaccinated.

   ii. Must present a valid Wildcat Pass in order to participate in weekly in-person classes, meetings, social events, cultural events, and other in-person activities during the summer program.

   iii. Must enforce UNH safety protocols at all times while teaching class, meeting with student participants, chaperoning an event, or participating in any other in person McNair sponsored program or event.

   iv. Must report any student participant who is violating the COVID-19 safety guidelines implemented by the university or the McNair program. Tammy Gewehr and Selina Choate should be notified immediately.

B. There are currently a total of 14 McNair faculty mentors signed up for the summer research fellowship program. Some mentors are currently in the University of New Hampshire testing pool, while others are not. All mentors who will be on campus during the summer program:

   i. Must test and submit a test sample weekly, anytime between Monday-Thursday at any of the on campus drop boxes, even if they are fully vaccinated.

   ii. Must present a valid Wildcat Pass in order to participate in weekly in-person classes, meetings, social events, cultural events, and/or other in-person activities during the summer program.
iii. Must follow the UNH COVID-19 safety guidelines for laboratory and non-laboratory research. For more information, please visit: https://www.unh.edu/research/research/covid-19-updates-resources.

iv. Must report any student participant who is violating the COVID-19 safety guidelines implemented by the university or the McNair program. Tammy Gewehr and Selina Choate should be notified immediately.

3. SUMMER IN PERSON COURSES

A. The program is offering two mandatory in person courses for the student participants: INCO 710 & INCO 699.

B. INCO 710: INTRO TO MCNAIR RESEARCH will be held in Horton Hall, room 210 and taught by Dr. Catherine Moran.

C. INCO 699.02: WRITERS WORKSHOP will be held in Murkland Hall, room G02 and taught by Dr. Allison Giannotti.

D. A seating chart will be created for each class to document where attendees are seated during class.

E. All student participants, summer staff, instructors and faculty mentors must follow the protocol below while in class:

i. Maintain adequate space between you and the person to your left and/or right. Specifically, you must be seated at every other chair.

ii. Always where your masks while in the classroom, even if you are vaccinated or have a negative test result.

iii. Drinking a beverage in class will be permitted. You may take quick breaks to bypass your mask to sip or drink your beverage while in the classroom.

iv. NO FOOD OR EATING IN THE CLASSROOMS. If you need to have a snack, you may ask the instructor to be excused and have your snack outside of the classroom. You must have your mask worn properly when exiting and entering the classroom.

4. SOCIAL EVENTS

A. Weekly social events will be coordinated by the two graduate peer advisors: Steven Arias and Sydney Birch. They will work with the student participants to come up with things to do on and/or off campus. Our program is required to offer social events during the summer per our grant. Some events that have been planned in the past:
i. Bowling, Movie night, Trip to Boston, MA via train, Six Flags in Springfield, MA (travelled in a van), Ice-cream social, Dinners at restaurants on and off campus, BBQ at a park, kayaking, surf lessons, picnic on a beach and more.

B. Both graduate peer advisors have a Defensive Driving Certification through the university.

C. During the summer program, graduate peer advisors and student participants must adhere to the following:

   i. All student participants who attend a social event must present a valid Wildcat Pass.

   ii. There can only be 50% capacity for vans or buses. For example, if the business indicates that a van can hold 10 passengers, that means you can only seat 5.

   iii. Masks must be worn while in the vehicle at all times.

   iv. Masks are no longer required to be worn outside except for gatherings of 20 or more where physical distancing cannot be maintained.

   v. While at an establishment off campus, you must follow the establishment’s COVID-19 protocols.

   vi. Make an effort to use Wildcat Transit opposed to carpooling. Carpooling is limited to only 2 people per vehicle.

   vii. No overnight trips are permitted for social events.

5. CULTURAL EVENTS

A. Our program is required to offer cultural events during the summer per our grant. There will be two cultural events, one in June and the other in July.

B. The June event will be a dining etiquette luncheon for our student participants. The event is still being planned. The event will likely be on campus and catered by UNH Conferences and Catering. The instructors, servers and cooks are all in the University of New Hampshire testing pool. The event is exclusively for student participants and guests who are in the University of New Hampshire testing pool.

C. The July event will be an overnight trip to New York City. The event is still being planned and pending approval. We are hoping to take the trip between July 29-30, 2021. Below are important factors about this event:

   i. The event is only for the 13 student participants and 5 of the summer staff.

   ii. Travelers will be transported by the C&J Trailways bus or by a private charter bus that will accommodate up to 55 passengers.

   iii. Travelers will stay overnight in a hotel in midtown Manhattan. No more than two people per room will be permitted. However, this is contingent on the University of New Hampshire’s updated COVID-19 safety protocol. If two people
per room is not permitted, we will make sure our accommodations will allow us to put one person in a room.

iv. Masks must be worn while in the vehicle at all times.

v. While at an establishment in New York, travelers must follow the establishment’s COVID-19 protocols.

6. RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

A. The Annual McNair Scholars Research Symposium will be held in the MUB Strafford Room on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM. This capstone event will allow all of our 13 student participants, plus 5 students from the UNH Coastal Response Research Center to present their research. This will be a poster presentation and presenters, staff and guests:

i. Must wear a mask during the entirety of the event. The only exception is when a participant, staff or guest removes their mask to drink a beverage.

ii. Participants will maintain physical distance of six feet while presenting.

iii. Staff and guests will maintain physical distance of six feet during the event.

iv. If food is served, it will be catered by UNH Conferences and Catering.

v. Guests who are not in the University of New Hampshire testing pool must provide either 1) proof of full vaccination, or 2) proof of a negative COVID-19 test that was taken within 72-hours of the event.