



# Office of the President

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Aug. 7, 2020

Dear Lumberjacks,

This week, we have successfully begun our phased move-in to campus! As we welcome our students back, we are educating them about their responsibilities to help keep themselves and others safe. We also are sharing the changes they can expect this fall, which are depicted in our **Welcome Back video**.

A key expectation for students, faculty, and staff is the daily use of Healthcheck, outlined in my message last week. You will be able to start using this important health and safety tool early next week as we launch a robust marketing and communications campaign to ensure that every member of our university community is informed about Healthcheck and uses it on a daily basis.

We are proud to announce that in partnership with Coconino County and the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs, NAU will host a walk-in testing site on our campus starting Monday. Free COVID-19 testing will be available to NAU community members and their families in the University Union Fieldhouse. A message to faculty, staff, and students will be sent later today that will provide additional details, including how to preregister for testing. All faculty and staff also are eligible for **free antibody testing** through a partnership with the University of Arizona at sites throughout the state.

We have been working with our community in many other ways as we extend our efforts to mitigate the risks of COVID-19 to our friends and neighbors in the Flagstaff community. We continue to work closely with community leaders across business, the arts, not-for-profits, and local religious organizations to find ways to promote our "safety first" messages where students engage in town.

We are providing strong, direct communication to our students that conveys our expectations for their conduct both on and off campus and penalties for non-compliance. We are determined to fully enforce our student code of conduct as it relates to **mask-wearing and physical distancing**, which ultimately calls for suspension or expulsion from the university if inappropriate behavior persists.

We have been in contact with every student organization, including our fraternities and sororities, to ensure they understand that any deviation from our policies will not be tolerated. We also are working with the national organizations governing Greek life, who fully endorse our uncompromising approach. In addition, we are working with off-campus housing to ensure that enforcement extends beyond our own residence halls. We are asking that all students refrain from hosting or attending in-person social gatherings.

Our community outreach has been focused on the following:

- Partnering with Coconino County, the City of Flagstaff, and the Flagstaff Downtown Business Alliance to emphasize the importance of restaurant operators adhering to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines and local and state orders, especially for those establishments that serve alcohol.

- Encouraging students to shop during off-peak hours—generally after 7 p.m. on weekdays and Sundays.

- Encouraging students of faith to worship responsibly via physically-distanced or video-streamed services when available.

We know that prevention begins now and will extend through the semester. We are committed to working with faculty, students, and staff as well as our community partners to enhance our ability to have a successful fall semester.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rita", with a small flourish at the end.

**Rita Hartung Cheng**

President