

Hello All,

As we continue to ride out the Delta variant of the COVID pandemic, I write with a few reminders and suggestions for faculty regarding our wellness resources and procedures.

First, don't forget my [Provost Virtual Office Hour](#) from 9:30 to 10:30 on Fridays. Stop by with questions or suggestions.

Second, we uploaded the Fall Kick-Off featuring resources for student success and wellness to the CPE Website at [this link](#). The Delta variant has taken all of our anxiety levels to new heights. Please remember that employees are encouraged to utilize the [EAP benefits](#) available to them through the McLaughlin Young Group, which includes access to counseling services. And students can schedule a same-day intake through the [Patient Portal](#).

Also, faculty recently asked Vice President of Student Affairs Shelia Burkhalter and I what advice students are receiving regarding daily symptom monitoring as the Delta variant continues to work its way through our community. Numerous reminders come out from Student Affairs communication platforms directly to students. To see the Welcome to Winthrop for Fall 2021 video message from VP Burkhalter, visit the [and scroll down to the first "recent communication"](#) dated August 19, 2021.

But repeating the message is also important. Since faculty interact with students every day and are key parts of our communication tree, we welcome you all taking time (I know many of you already do) to remind students to monitor their symptoms daily and not to come to class if they are experiencing symptoms. They have all been instructed to use the Daily Symptom Tracker housed in our [Patient Portal](#), if they have questions about whether their symptoms are COVID-related. We have standing messages on Wingspan and Blackboard. But reminders from you will help us reinforce this message and minimize potential spread. I encourage you to work in occasional reminders as you begin your classes. Here is our Wingspan message:

As socially responsible members of this community, everyone is expected to engage in daily health self-monitoring, to stay home (residence hall or off-campus housing) from on-campus class, work, or activities if they begin experiencing any COVID-related symptoms, and students are expected to contact Health Services through the Patient Portal or [covidreporting@winthrop.edu](mailto:covidreporting@winthrop.edu) to report symptoms or close contact, while remaining at home until a nurse contacts them. Every member of the Winthrop community is also strongly encouraged to get vaccinated and wear a mask or face covering inside campus buildings and anywhere outdoors where physical distancing of 6 feet or more cannot be ensured.

If you yourself feel unwell, do not come to work! Communicate with your supervisor and get tested. For all positive cases and exposures, use the HR online [COVID reporting link](#) to get fast advice on next steps. I just had to do this myself; I know the first response is, now what am I supposed to do?? Take the time to check out these steps. To put it simply, use the HR link for guidance and keep your chair or supervisor informed.

Here are a few more important dates I ask that you put on your calendars and work into student reminders:

September 9: We will have a [mobile vaccination clinic](#) moving across various locations on campus throughout the day. They will return to provide second shots in early October. Help us spread the word, which is already on the website and on social media outlets. We are also incentivizing vaccines by raffling gifts to vaccinated students every Thursday. The big gifts will come later in October and November, including Apple products. So participating in these vaccination clinics will make students eligible in time to reap more than the health benefits. The complete awards program totals \$100,000!

September 16: We will have a Pfizer vaccination clinic on campus in McBryde Hall from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

October 28: [Fresh Check Day](#): Each year, Wellness Services and Counseling Services collaborate to offer a Mental Health event called Fresh Check Day. Fresh Check Day is an uplifting mental health promotion and suicide prevention event with interactive booths and peer-to-peer messaging in a lively social atmosphere. The event encourages mental health care; reduces the fears, anxieties, and misunderstandings surrounding mental health, and promotes awareness of mental health resources and coping strategies on college campuses. This year's event will take place on October 28 on the Campus Green from 10 – 2. Many more students take advantage of the screening opportunities provided when faculty also promote the event (hence this early notice) and when incentives are provided, such as extra credit or connection to class materials, as appropriate. This year more than ever, please consider how you can partner with Student Affairs staff to promote this event to students. And come check it out yourselves as well!

I would like to end by encouraging you to read UCM's press release on [Winthrop's Class of 2025](#). They may be fewer in number, but they are full of character and accomplishment. See a teaser below and have a great weekend!

Adrienne

### **Some other fun facts:**

\*Most Popular Majors: Biology and Psychology

\*Farthest Distance Traveled to Attend Winthrop, Within the U.S.: Honolulu, Hawaii (4,677 miles)

\*Farthest Distance Traveled to Attend Winthrop, Outside of the U.S.: Norway (4,233)

\*97 Palmetto Fellows Recipients

\*26 Valedictorians