FACULTY OF EDUCATION
TOWN HALL
PLANNING FOR 2021W1 (SEPT. 2021)
RETURN TO CAMPUS
Return to Face-to-Face including Teaching, Research, Administration, and all other University work
HOUSEKEEPING

When connected to the Town Hall, please consider the following:

• Mute your microphone.
• Use an ethernet connection instead of wi-fi, if possible.
• If your connection is weak, consider turning off your video while still participating in the meeting.
• If you would like to ask a question during the Q&A period, please send it via Slido.com, event #229183. Slido allows you to:
  • Up-vote others’ questions to avoid duplicated previous questions
  • Choose to enter your name or remain anonymous
WELCOME REMARKS &
UPDATES FROM UBC CENTRAL

Dean Blye Frank
PROVINCIAL & UNIVERSITY-WIDE W1 CONTEXT

Provincial Health Authority Directives have been provided for two plans:

- **Plan A**: Full 2021W1 Return to Campus with face-to-face teaching and work (assumption that a return to full capacity utilization will be possible); no social distancing or sanitizing regimens other than beginning and end of day routine cleaning.
- **Plan C**: Full 2021W1 return to remote teaching and work, following provincial health orders in the face of another surge of COVID-19 that is not satisfactorily addressed by vaccines.

**FYI**: Central Block Grant Proposal requests funding to support and resource the Faculty of Education plans for both Plan A and Plan C.
# FACULTY OF EDUCATION WORKING GROUPS

## Overall Lead & Town Hall Host: Dean Blye Frank

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Working Group</th>
<th>Working Group Lead</th>
<th>Working Group Members</th>
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</tr>
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CHALLENGES PRESENTED BY PLAN A

There are a number of challenges presented by the 2021W1 Return to Work requirement (Plan A) during a pandemic:

- Medical Problems
- International Students
- Offering Online Routes
- Perceptions of Choice
- Impacts on Research
- Anti-Maskers + Low vaccination rates or vaccine failure
- Additional problems not yet raised...
**PLAN A CHALLENGE: MEDICAL PROBLEMS**

- **Students** who are immunocompromised and cannot risk attending face-to-face classes while COVID-19 is circulating.
  - Can program acceptance or status be delayed? Can we offer an online portal for some or all courses? Can we provide an online route with video streaming of classes on Zoom or Canvas?

- **Faculty** who are immunocompromised and cannot risk attending face-to-face classes & work while COVID-19 is circulating.
  - Medical Accommodations will be a Faculty Association & Faculty Relations issue; potential to teach graduate courses online? This will involve workload reallocation and potential additional hiring for instructors.

- **Staff** who are immunocompromised and cannot risk attending in-person work while COVID-19 is circulating.
  - Medical Accommodations will be an HR & Union/Association issue.
PLAN A CHALLENGE: INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International Students may not be able to get a student Visa in time for 2021W1 (September 2021)

- **BEd & undergraduates**: Can program acceptance or program status be delayed?
- **Graduate students**: Can classes be streamed online via Zoom or Canvas for participation?
PLAN A CHALLENGE: OFFERING ONLINE OPTIONS FOR FACE-TO-FACE COURSES

• Faculty will not have to teach two groups of students (i.e. one face-to-face and one online) when workload allocation assigns one course;

• An in-person course can include online components, both synchronous and asynchronous;

• We can assign TAs to support Faculty members who have students both face-to-face and online;

• The TAs can be hired and trained to provide extensive assistance with the online cohorts (e.g. immunocompromised, international students, etc.) of a given course.
WORKING GROUP: FACULTY

- Faculty who are immunocompromised and cannot risk face-to-face classes & work while COVID-19 is circulating.
  - Medical Accommodations will be a Faculty Association & Faculty Relations issue; potential to teach graduate courses online? This will involve workload reallocation and potential additional hiring for sessional instructors.

- Scheduling requires Units to make decisions about W1 Mode of Delivery for every single course by June 1;

- Faculty will not have to teach two groups of students (i.e. one face-to-face and one online) when workload allocation assigns one course;

- Faculty perceptions that they can elect, individually, to determine wholesale whether to teach a course wholly online or face-to-face.
  - This is actually a Head/Directors decision in collaboration with the Faculty Leadership on the operational side; we want to leverage the interest and skill of online teaching in hybridized initiatives following 2021W1.
WORKING GROUP: FACILITIES AND STAFF AFFAIRS

- Regulatory framework – Katy
- University-wide Remote Work Guidelines – Announcement late May 2021 – Anna
- Transportation to and from campus - Anna
- Office space safety – Katy
- Accommodation request protocols - Anna

covid19.ubc.ca/campus-return-plan/
facilities.ubc.ca/covid-19/
facilities.ok.ubc.ca
WORKING GROUP: RESEARCH

1. University-wide facility/instruction safety plans vs. those for research spaces:
   - FoE is still at Research Resumption Phase/Stage 1 (33% capacity in research spaces, labs, with individual safety plans).
   - Ramp up to Stage 2 (66%, with FoE/DACR approval) over summer or to 100% in Fall? Who decides? Does UBC-wide policy take precedence over research safety planning?

2. Research space access: e.g., PCOH Research Commons?


4. Consultation with Dept. Heads/School Director: re: research curtailment vs. upstaging (mainly KIN); challenges for people doing archival research or in-person fieldwork (on/off campus). Many have successfully pivoted to Zoom or postponed projects.

5. Covid extensions to grants: typically have been allowed

6. Grant facilitation/support/activity continues: e.g., SSHRC IG info session next week (Nandini)
**WORKING GROUP: GRADUATE PROGRAMS & STUDENTS**

Informal survey of graduate students about “hopes and concerns” for fall return
(Survey facilitated via email within units by peer advisors and GCAC student reps)

**Hopes:** to meet and discuss face-to-face; create community; develop relationships with other students through casual encounters; return to normal research activities; opportunities for hybrid classes with reduced need for commuting; hope for social distancing; hope for mask and vaccine mandates to be required for those attending classes; vaccine access for all students

**Concerns:** safety and feasibility of travel; costs of quarantine; delays in visa processing; marginalization of international students and immunocompromised who must attend remotely; access to vaccines; risks of illness; lack of employment opportunities due to Covid; campus housing safety; unclear safety plans; mental health; childcare; air quality and circulation in buildings; confusing messaging from the province; need for implementation of social distancing, mask and vaccine mandates; safety of commuting on crowded transit; safety of vulnerable family members; implementation of social distancing and sanitation in classrooms, hallways and washrooms

n=73
ECPS: 4; EDCP: 12; EDST: 33; LLED 16; KIN: 8
WORKING GROUP: UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS & STUDENTS

SCHOOL OF KINESIOLOGY

• **Term 1** courses will be offered *in-person*, or fully *online* (synchronous/asynchronous).

• Courses that cannot adapt from in-person teaching to online delivery, should circumstances dictate, will be held in Term 2.

• Undergraduate Courses offered **Term 1: 30 courses:**
  
  • 70% (20/30) offered in-person including laboratories following safety protocols:
  • 30% (10/30) offered online synchronous/asynchronous modes: online courses distributed across 100-400 levels
• Faculty and Student Orientation regularly scheduled for late August will be held online

• Term 1 courses will be offered in-person as set out within the regular course programming structure

• Each course will have a CANVAS course shell

• Incoming BEd students have been notified to be prepared to be in the Vancouver/ Lower Mainland to participate in face-to-face practica in the fall

• Supports for Indigenous students who may not be able to return to campus will be in place
## Questions? Comments? Concerns?

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