

June 5, 2020

Principal Investigators and Members of the Columbia University Research Community –

On behalf of EH&S, I hope that this message finds you and yours safe, healthy and well.

In preparation for the [phased resumption of research activities](#), EH&S has developed a [“Ramp-Up Checklist”](#) for use by laboratories prior to and upon return to campus. At this time, the document remains in draft form, pending final approval by the applicable executive University working groups, and its distribution is not intended to serve as an invitation to return to campus. However, consistent with previously published University timelines, the planning phase for the resumption of research is underway now, and Phase 0 of the Ramp-Up Checklist is focused on activities and tasks that can be accomplished remotely, prior to a return to the physical laboratory.

All laboratories are strongly encouraged to review the Checklist and begin these actions as soon as possible, in order to expedite a smoother return to research activity. Please also note, it is imperative that all personnel complete the University’s soon to be released “COVID-19: Safely Returning to the Research Workplace” training module, and that individuals observe all workplace modifications, such as the use of face coverings and the practice of safe physical distancing, while on campus.

In addition to the checklist, an [illustrated guidance document for researchers is enclosed](#). This “A Day in the Life” poster can be shared and displayed as needed to help University personnel understand the daily hygiene requirements needed to promote health and safety when returning to the workplace.

Finally, please find attached to this message a digital copy of the summer edition of EH&S’ newsletter, [SafetyMatters](#). The current edition is entirely devoted to the SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 pandemic and highlights the safety issues associated with working with the virus, returning to the workplace, and adjusting to life in this “new different” time.

As always, please feel free to [contact EH&S](#) for assistance with the completion of any checklist items, or to discuss any questions or concerns.

Regards,
Chris

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