SUNY POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Tod A. Laursen, Ph.D.
Acting President

May 13, 2021

To Faculty, Staff, and Students,

As part of our continuing effort to provide updates regarding COVID-19 and as we work to maintain the health of our students, faculty, and staff, we want to make you aware that one individual on the Utica campus tested positive for COVID-19 and was last on campus Tuesday, May 11. The individual will remain isolated from the campus population until public health officials have indicated they may return.

We wish this individual a full and rapid recovery. As per New York State requirements, the local health department has been notified, and SUNY Poly will continue to work with the county's contact tracing program to connect with anyone who may have been close contacts with the individual to inform them of what precautionary safety protocols must be followed. Although there are not believed to be any close contacts, anyone who may be identified as such through our internal contact tracing efforts will be asked to self-quarantine as directed by the Health Department's guidance. Regular enhanced disinfection of the impacted areas (Pooled testing site 5/11 before 4 p.m.; Kunsela Hall 2nd floor restroom) was performed; no additional/special cleaning is required. Please note that the CDC defines exposure risk from someone who is COVID-19 positive as resulting from being less than six feet away for a total of 15 minutes or longer over a 24-hour period.

As we have previously shared with you and because of the current COVID-19 activity in the surrounding communities, COVID-19 Exposure Guidance procedures have been implemented and are being followed. We encourage everyone to continue taking COVID-19 precautions on or off campus, even when vaccinated; testing is recommended for anyone who has symptoms. It is also the institution's responsibility to safeguard the privacy of those on campus, and in accordance with federal law related to health information, any impacted individual(s) cannot be identified. We will continue to alert you about any COVID-19 cases impacting our campus.

To help answer a number of questions and keep our community informed, please visit SUNY Poly's COVID-19 webpage. You are also encouraged to obtain COVID-19 information from your healthcare provider, NYS Dept. of Health, and the CDC. We would also like to remind you to monitor for symptoms and that should you have a temperature of 100.4°F or higher, a cough, or trouble breathing, you should call your health provider immediately; employees also should contact Human Resources and students should also contact the Wellness Center for instructions.

For all COVID-19 related illness, positive test result, isolation, or quarantine issues, please direct all communications to the following:

- **Students**: Wellness Center at WellnessCenter@sunypoly.edu
- **Employees**: Human Resources at HR@sunypoly.edu
- **Utica Campus Visitors**: Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) at (315) 792-7101 or Human Resources at HR@sunypoly.edu
- **Albany Campus Visitors**: Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) at SUNYPolyEHS@sunypoly.edu or Human Resources at SUNYPolyHR@sunypoly.edu

SUNY Poly will continue to put in place the necessary measures to maximize our community's health. This update is a strong indication of why SUNY Poly is requiring strict adherence to efforts such as pooled

testing (still required for all on campus), daily screening (every day for anyone on campus), social distancing, and the wearing of face coverings. In addition, you must use your ID card to swipe in to buildings even if the door is open; students and employees must notify the Wellness Center and HR, respectively, if they receive a positive COVID-19 test; and you should not come to campus if you are symptomatic. SUNY Poly is also encouraging regular handwashing with soap for more than 20 seconds, along with the use of hand sanitizer (containing 60-95% alcohol) and classroom disinfecting materials, and urging everyone to get vaccinated.

We appreciate your supporting these critical efforts, as well as your patience and understanding.

The Office of Marketing and Communications