COVID-19 Task Force Update

Sharing information regarding academic planning activities for the NPS Summer Quarter 2021

8 June 2021

Command Guidance: (updated)
President Rondeau has approved the plan to have the summer quarter taught in hybrid-mode. The current goal is to maximize the number of classes in face-to-face mode while maintaining health protection.
Provost Gartner's objective is that 50% of all classes to have in-person experience (hybrid or 100% residential). The remainder of classes will be delivered in DL-mode.
The safety of faculty, students and staff remains the top priority. At the moment NSAM is in HPCON B (health protection condition B), which mandates that no more than 50% of NPS population be on campus at any moment.

CNO Guidance: (new)
The CNO office issued NAVADMIN 110/21, the US NAVY COVID-19 STANDING GUIDANCE, updated on June 2. It said:

"Widespread immunization, command engagement, crew ownership, and individual accountability are the cornerstones to our success to date ... The covid-19 vaccines authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration are safe, effective and in particular, are vital to protecting recipients from hospitalization and death. Commanding officers should make every effort to educate their crews on the importance of vaccination and facilitate open discussions with medical personnel if there are questions. Documented Covid-19 cases among immunized personnel are very infrequent and all cases have been mild to moderate. Consistent with ref (f), to date none of the more than 230,000 fully immunized Navy and Marine Corps members have been hospitalized."
"... Fully immunized individuals are not required to wear facemasks or physically distance from others ...

DOD Mask Guidance:
The Deputy Secretary of Defense signed on May 13 the following mask guidance that said:

"...fully vaccinated DoD personnel (who are at least two weeks beyond their final dose) are no longer required to wear a mask indoors or outdoors at DoD facilities. All DoD personnel should continue to comply with CDC guidance regarding areas where masks should be worn, including within airports. Personnel who are not fully vaccinated should continue to follow applicable DoD mask guidance, including continuing to wear masks indoors."

Reminder from our Chief of Staff, CAPT Philip Old: The honor system applies to mask wear as inquiry concerning vaccination status of civilian personnel is prohibited.

Honor, Courage, Commitment!
President’s Board for Student Affairs:

Message from the PBSA:

“We are here to help and want to continue to support you in a way that best serves all NPS students. To this end, we plan to meet students at the New Student Orientation, support graduates at June’s Graduation Ceremony, will be offering campus tours, and will continue to host monthly student council meetings on the second Thursday of every month. We will be pushing our updates via student email, Yammer, and through our resource page (available since 4 June 2021). If you would like to learn more, or have questions for the PBSA, please email either my personal email address at domonique.hittner@nps.edu or the PBSA at large at pbsa@nps.edu.”

Safety Update: (updated)

According to Tony Colon, our Director of Safety, Health and Environmental, at least 56% of the students and 51% of Faculty and Staff have received at least one shot of vaccine (information is voluntary, so numbers are probably higher). Vaccinations are widely available and encouraged.

Ventilation and airflow have been tested in windowless classrooms throughout this past year and has included repairs to some systems. The Safety Office continues to test the windowless classrooms, significantly expanding the number of available rooms for the summer. Here are the approved rooms with proper ventilation (more rooms to be approved soon):

- All windowed rooms are approved for use
- Bullard 108, 202
- Glasgow 285, 303, 306, 387, 388, 389
- Glasgow East 117, 122, 1001B, 1004 and 203.
- Ingersoll 260, 263, 271, 285, 322, 323, 325
- Reed 203
- Spanagel 117, 231, 321, 421
- Watkins 275, 285
- Dudley Knox Library 138, 161 (conference rooms)

For further information: https://nps.edu/web/safety/coronavirus

Classroom/Lab Scheduling & Availability: (updated)

Current classroom capacity is 25%-50% of the normal capacity due to CDC 6ft social-distancing guideline. Alternative spaces, such as larger conference rooms were added to the pool of available classroom spaces to provide additional capacity for in-residence learning.

The Scheduling Office reminds that changes to the posted schedule will need to follow this scheduling workflow. The Scheduling Office will be available once the schedule is posted to help facilitate room adjustments.

All ad-hoc room requests for events occurring on or after July 5th will be on pending status until the AY21Q4 is finalized. Contact scheduling@nps.edu with any questions.

For scheduling questions: scheduling@nps.edu
Other Academic Spaces: (updated)
In addition to classrooms and labs, other spaces on campus are being made available to the during the summer quarter for use as socially-distanced study or meeting spaces. This addresses student concern of having a place to go between scheduled classes or for use for a DL class while on campus. The Safety Office has surveyed the Dudley Knox Library study spaces.

The library will re-open on June 14 with modified services and several approved socially-distanced spaces.

Instructional Support: (updated)
The TLC will be hosting a workshop in June entitled "Keys to Success for Hybrid Teaching and Learning" at 1200-1300 this Thursday, June 10. Click here to join the meeting: Click here to join the meeting.

The Office of Teaching and Learning (OTL) and the Graduate Education Advancement Center (GEAC) look forward to more faculty and students returning to campus for instructional activities in the coming months. To begin this transition, faculty are encouraged to incorporate blended/hybrid instructional opportunities throughout the quarter for specific purposes such as review/tutorial sessions, labs, regular classes with social distancing, project work, independent study, and advisory sessions.

For additional ideas and help getting started contact Ali Rodgers: arogers@nps.edu
Resources for course design and technology & pedagogy integration: geacinstrdesign@nps.edu

For further information and to review instructional resources, visit TLC website. For personal assistance, contact: TLC@nps.edu

Technical Support:
ITACS, in conjunction with GEAC, is working on increasing the technology capabilities of NPS classrooms, outfitting the classrooms across campus with hybrid capabilities. Information on the use of hybrid classrooms and the status capabilities is available on the NPS Wiki:
- Hybrid How-to: NPS Classrooms
- List of Hybrid Enabled Classrooms, with specific details of rooms and individual capabilities. This list will be updated as additional classrooms are equipped.

For further information, click HERE

NSAM Updates: (updated)
Town Hall 16 June will be solely to discuss Child Youth Programs (i.e. Child Development Center).
Join ZoomGov Meeting: https://nps-edu.zoomgov.com/j/1610135985
Passcode: M&7qG&+5PK

For further information related to guidance, services, and activities under the command of Naval Support Authority Monterey please see:
https://www.nps.edu/web/nsam
https://www.nps.edu/web/nsam/news-and-announcements

Jennifer Barnhill, Tony Colon, MAJ Domonique Hittner, CAPT Philip Old, Ali Rodgers, and Harry Thomas provided content. Please send feedback, inputs or corrections to Geraldo Ferrer, Dennis Lester or Tom Rosko.