



WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY UPDATE

May 17, 2021

Vaccinations are key to a healthier campus

Dear Shocker family,

As we wrap up another academic year, I can almost hear the collective sense of accomplishment from across campus. We can undoubtedly say that, for most of us, this year has been the most challenging in our lives. The dedication you've shown to our students and the university has been remarkable, and it is sincerely appreciated.

The anxiety that COVID-19 brought is now followed by feelings of uncertainty about how we can carefully emerge from the pandemic.

As mask restrictions and social distancing guidelines are eased, many might feel vulnerable or uncomfortable. That is understandable considering we just endured a year when those safeguards meant keeping our family and loved ones safe and healthy.

However, with the success from vaccines and other health measures, we finally have evidence that most people can move beyond many of the restrictions that have been so much a part of our lives for the past year. Just recently, the CDC released a statement that indicated that vaccinated people can forgo a mask in most indoor situations.

As we say goodbye to our students for the semester and make plans for the summer, I encourage you to protect yourself, your family and the community by getting vaccinated. These vaccines are overwhelmingly safe and effective in preventing COVID-19 infections. Not only that, they offer us a roadmap on how we can safely and confidently resume a somewhat more normal life.

I can't express how eager I am to return to a more vibrant campus during the summer and fall months. For those of you who I haven't been able to see in person for more than a year, I am enthusiastically anticipating having a cup of coffee with you or attending a meeting together. For now, enjoy your summer months and I look forward to seeing you soon

Shirley Lefever,
Interim provost

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