

Questions submitted via Zoom that we did not have time to address during the 7/8/2020 Extended President's Council Webinar

Student Technology Needs -

Q - Many of our classes will be online or hybrid to ensure that safety of both students and instructors. Are "new recruits" (undergrad) being told what tech needs they will have starting at UAlbany, especially if they will not be on campus? If I have a student, especially a new first-year student in fall with limited access to technology, what will we be able to do (for certain) to help them and how should a request for help be made?

A - These issues are being raised with students during (virtual) summer orientation, which just started, and are being addressed with students by their advisors on an individual basis. A student technology guide has been drafted that details the technology a student will need and provides them with information about how to access resources. This document will be shared with students and posted on the web by next week. With thanks to additional support from the UAlbany Foundation, and our many donors - many of which are faculty and staff - as well as from SUNY, and the federal CARES act, we have been able to meet the technology equipment needs of all students brought to our attention to-date. Connectivity issues no doubt remain a challenge for some, and we will continue to address them on a case-by-case basis as best we can.

Advisement -

Q - In regards to safety of academic advisors what protocols do you have in place to keep advisors safe since social distancing will be extremely difficult in our current office locations?

A - Virtual advising is encouraged as much as possible. When there is a need to meet in person with a student, face coverings for all are advisable even if six feet distance can be maintained, and/or attempt to schedule the meeting in larger room elsewhere.

Financial -

Q - For cutting costs, is UAlbany now considering retrenchments/cuts to any centers, institutes or programs?

A - Assuming this question is related to anticipated state budget reductions, the answer is no, no such cuts are being considered at the University level at this time.

Courses, Scheduling, Instructionally-related -

Q - Academic units have been asked to provide a list of how they would like their fall 2020 courses to be offered - online, hybrid, etc. Will faculty be asked to provide dates for courses designated as blended/hybrid that will meet face to face and for when they meet remotely? If so, when?

A - If a previously scheduled in-person class is changed to hybrid, the in-person and online meetings (if synchronous) should use existing day/time patterns. They will likely be the same as originally scheduled, and would ask instructors to stick to whatever is assigned, as students will have other classes with set schedules as well.

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Q - Incoming freshmen and parents are asking for information on dorm logistics, how they will be protected from COVID 19 in tight dorm environment, whether sophomores will be required to live on campus, and if what charges will be if we do have to go to remote learning due to COVID 19 safety concerns? They also have questions about meal plans and remote only options for attending classes.

A - A "Students Returning to Campus Guide" will be made available to all students and their parents in the coming weeks that covers these topics. This is the student version of the recently distributed [Return to the Workplace Guide](#) and [Return to Teaching Guide](#).

Q - Is there a way we can see additional details and data from the programs impacting undergrad re-enrollment?

A - All of the Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) initiatives are detailed the full [Strategic Enrollment Management plan](#). They are at different stages of implementation, and you can reach out to the responsible offices, noted in the plan, for additional details.