Marquette’s Response to the Global COVID-19 Pandemic

Marquette’s COVID-19 Campus Response Team
In light of the global COVID-19 pandemic, Marquette created a COVID-19 Campus Response Team. Led by Dr. Xavier Cole, vice president for student affairs, the team guides Marquette’s response to COVID-19 while building and sustaining the capability to mitigate, respond to and recover from this crisis.

• The 25-person Steering Committee meets daily to share updates, discuss COVID-19 developments, prepare campus communications and develop recommendations for the Executive Leadership Team (ELT). The ELT, comprised of the president, provost and SVP/COO, makes all final decisions.
• The Steering Committee consults with deans, vice presidents and vice provosts in its process.
• The Steering Committee and six sub-committees include approximately 100 subject matter experts from across campus. Sub-committees include: Recovery Planning, Academics, Employees, External Contacts, Medical and Student/Residence Life.

The Response Team is focused on three core objectives:
• Mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in our campus and broader communities
• A commitment to our Catholic, Jesuit mission and to continued academic and research excellence
• Mitigating the global pandemic’s financial impact on Marquette and specifically our faculty, staff and students

Marquette’s Recovery Planning Effort
The COVID-19 Campus Response Team has outlined a draft five-step recovery plan that will lead to a phased approach for reopening the Marquette University campus.

Step 1
• Creation of the reopening plan focusing on the core attributes of safety, flexibility, communication, proactivity, consideration for personal and departmental needs and gathering input from key stakeholders.

Step 2
• Establishing the processes and resources necessary to plan for resumption of limited summer campus operations. This step is contingent on Wisconsin’s guidelines for safe reopening of businesses, university confidence that the number of incidents of infection remain low, a monitoring system capable of detecting incidents of infection on campus, disinfection of university offices and spaces, and adequate PPE for returning faculty and staff. This is our current phase.

Step 3
• Returning the campus facilities to a condition that allows for limited employees to be on campus for reduced summer operations, with a focus on social distancing practices, de-densification, and the complete cleaning and disinfection of campus buildings to facilitate a safe return to campus for faculty and staff.

Step 4
• A return to campus with the intent to prepare for the fall semester, contingent on the successful completion of Steps 2 and 3. This step will include communication and direction to faculty and staff for preparation and implementation.

Step 5
• Implementing this step means that all other steps have been completed. Campus would be fully operational and plans would be in place for the acceptance of students for the 2020 Fall Semester, in alignment with government and medical guidelines.

This plan is based on medical, federal and state guidelines, and may need to change based on those guidelines.