Efficient COVID-19 Testing

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Problem Statement

Students need an easy and time-efficient way to receive COVID-19 testing, because many times the testing sites are overcrowded, and students don't have an abundance of time to stop and wait in long lines for testing.

Who is experiencing the problem?

Students and faculty directly experience the long wait times and possible COVID-19 exposure, while colleges as a whole suffer the increased risk of a shutdown scenario.

What is the problem?

For colleges to remain open, students must be routinely screened for COVID-19, and social distancing must be enforced. However, a lack of real-time information about testing sites makes adhering to these standards difficult. Students and faculty often cannot find the time to get a test, especially considering wait times are unknown and testing is only offered during regular business hours, the same time students and faculty are in class.

Where does the problem present itself?

The problem occurs at our campus testing facilities. On a larger scale, less than ideal testing conditions can lead to wide transmission of the disease throughout the university.

Why does it matter?

It is universally understood that robust COVID-19 testing is essential for colleges to remain open, but our current system is severely lacking. Students want to do their part and get tested, but in its current state testing is time consuming, difficult to schedule, and potentially unsafe. Long lines, overcrowded facilities, or anything that discourages students from getting tested threatens the university's ability to remain open and must be immediately remedied. Testing efforts should be met with safety and clarity, not long lines and confusion.