



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH Vice President James A. Dias, Ph.D.

Continuity of Research and Scholarly Activities

Dear Members of the UAlbany Community,

UAlbany faculty, staff, and graduate students will soon be able to resume their research and scholarly work following the end of the stay-at-home directive issued by NYS Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to slow the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Governor recently announced that the Capital Region is now in Phase 2 of reopening, and businesses and other institutions may gradually resume operations.

The University at Albany's Research and Scholarship Continuity Task Force has developed [recommendations](#) for the resumption of research and scholarly activities, along with a corresponding *approval process* to verify that all necessary steps have been taken to ensure personal safety and the safe operation of laboratory and research spaces. Please be advised that faculty and researchers should perform research and scholarly activities that can be completed remotely from home. However, physically being on campus will be permitted for research and scholarship that require the use of campus facilities and instrumentation.

To initiate the 3-step approval process, please follow the below:

1. **STEP 1:** Review the guidelines outlined in the [Task Force's Recommendations](#) to resume research and scholarly activities, as well as the literature cited in the report (accessible via hyperlinks). Download, print, and post in your labs/workspaces the campus's [COVID-19 signage](#) for safety and social distancing. Also, please download and review UAlbany's Environmental Health and Safety ([EHS](#)) [Checklist](#) for Restarting Research Activities.
2. **STEP 2:** Complete and submit the attached **Research Continuity Approval Form**. Use the embedded link to email the form to the Division for Research and the EHS office, and copy your department chair or director, as well as your college/school dean. If all requirements are met, you will receive approval from my office in a few days.
3. **STEP 3:** Once you receive approval from my office, you should then inspect your laboratory or workspace using the [EHS Checklist](#). Keep a copy of the checklist readily accessible. Make sure everyone on your team is aware of and agrees to follow all pertinent recommendations and guidelines.

That's it!

Upon completing these 3-steps, and receiving approval from my office, you will be able to resume your research and scholarly activities and the creation of exciting new knowledge!

If you have any questions, please email research@albany.edu, and we will get back to you as quickly as possible.

On behalf of the Division for Research, thank you for your patience during the campus pause and for your on-going pursuit of research excellence at the University at Albany.

Sincerely,

James A. Dias, Ph.D.

Vice President for Research