Dear UW-River Falls Students,

As we move into the second half of the semester, I wanted to take a minute to update you on a few class-related things. I also want to compliment those of you living on campus for your cooperation as we implemented mandatory COVID-19 testing. Our positive case numbers continue to remain low and I credit you for recognizing the seriousness of the situation and taking needed precautions. Following our health and safety guidance is even more important now, with the weather turning colder and people spending more time indoors.

Regarding your classes:

1. As announced by the Registrar’s Office, the UWRF Faculty Senate has extended the due date for requesting approval for classes to be converted to pass/fail to November 23. Go [here](#) to start the request process. **Remember, you need to get approval by your instructor and adviser.** We hope this additional time will allow you to discuss and consider whether to pursue this option for one or more of your courses.

2. Many face-to-face and hybrid classes are now providing online options for students, some or all of the time. Online options are not a replacement for the course you are enrolled in, but they do provide you with some flexibility to complete parts of the course virtually. You are encouraged to **please attend any face-to-face classes regularly** if you are able to, and you should feel safe doing so as our classroom health protocols are among the best in the UW System. Please know that your attendance now will influence how many face-to-face classroom opportunities we offer next semester.

3. Remember that we are not changing course delivery **after Thanksgiving** institution-wide, but some instructors may choose to change to all-online. If you have concerns about returning after Thanksgiving to attend classes that continue to offer face-to-face components, check with your instructors to see what options may be available.

Regarding our testing and tracing procedures:

4. All students living on campus will continue to be tested regularly and should promptly follow their appointment reminders. **If you live off campus, remember that our COVID-19 testing services are available to you.** If you are taking any face-to-face classes or using any campus facilities, we strongly recommend that you [schedule](#) a time to be tested at least once every two weeks. We can sign you up for automated reminders – just inquire at the testing site. If you plan to leave River Falls for Thanksgiving, note that we will be sending out special instructions regarding testing around that holiday, in order to help protect your friends and family.

5. If you are on campus, please continue to [scan the QR codes](#) located near the entrance of classrooms and other spaces on campus. You should be scanning the QR code for any space you enter and expect to remain for 15 minutes or longer. This is important to our contact tracing protocols when we do have a positive case of COVID-19.
In closing, I want to reiterate that I’m proud of how all of you have responded to the problems we encountered with the spike in COVID-19 cases last month. We are now in a much better place and this is likely a result of your behavior. Thank you for that.

Let’s keep moving forward!

Regards,

David Travis, Provost