

**EMPLOYEE UPDATE: COVID-19**  
**10.26.20**

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Dear Faculty and Staff,

We have made it more than halfway through the semester and are entering the final stretch! When we began this semester there was some uncertainty about whether or not we would be able to make it through. Together, we have managed to keep the doors open and provide a dynamic and engaging campus experience that fosters learning, ongoing conversion, personal relationships and community life - all in the context of a safe environment for students, faculty, staff, and guests.

I want to take this opportunity to encourage all of us to finish strong! What we have accomplished to date is nothing short of amazing – but we are not quite done yet.

As most are aware, over the last couple of weeks there has been a bit of a resurgence in the COVID-19 infection rate locally – and more broadly throughout the state. As has been reported in the [weekly COVID-19 dashboard](#), we had not experienced any employee infections since we began reporting statistics in late August. Unfortunately, that has changed as we are aware of an employee who has tested positive this last week. When cases are confirmed the University follows up with contacts and implements other mitigation tactics as may be required.

While the rate of incidence is still very low within our community, I want to invite everyone to re-read and maintain our [University COVID-19 protocols](#) which are aimed at mitigating the risk of infection and spread of COVID-19 on campus. In particular,

[Monitor yourself for symptoms](#) and take your temperature daily before reporting to work. Do not report to work with symptoms of COVID-19 or any other communicable illness. If you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive do not report to work. If you have tested positive please contact Human Resources (Mary Lynn Lewis, [mlewis@franciscan.edu](mailto:mlewis@franciscan.edu). \*6398).

[Wear a facial covering](#) while indoors at all times unless you are working alone in your assigned work area.

[Maintain social distancing](#) of six feet to the greatest extent possible.

As always, please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Peace and blessings,  
Brenan

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*Brenan Pergj*  
*Vice President of Human Resources*  
*Franciscan University of Steubenville*  
[bpergj@franciscan.edu](mailto:bpergj@franciscan.edu)  
*Direct: 740.283.6445*