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August 3, 2020

The Honorable Diana Gonzalez
Interim Secretary of Higher Education
State of New Jersey
Office of the Secretary of Higher Education
P.O. Box 542
Trenton, NJ 08625-0542

Dear Madame Secretary,

Thank you for your feedback concerning our Fall 2020 restart plan.

To answer your question concerning instruction, we will use three instructional modalities to de-densify our classrooms while strictly observing distancing, masking, and hand sanitizing guidance at all times. Those modalities include in-person learning, hybrid learning (a mix of in-person and remote learning following an A/B schedule), and fully online learning.

Overall, in-person courses will be reduced significantly. Our restart plan envisioned that the first three weeks of the fall semester would be taught entirely online (beginning August 17), with limited face-to-face instruction beginning no earlier than September 8. We are now amending our plan to include an additional week of fully remote instruction, with in-person classes beginning no earlier than September 14.

Although we are still working to accommodate many requests from faculty and students who seek to provide or receive instruction remotely, we expect that the number of courses with an in-person component will be at about 50% of the level of in-person courses in a typical semester, and most of the classes associated with those in-person courses will operate in significantly reduced capacity (50% or less) given consistent adherence to the distancing guidance of 6 feet between chairs in a classroom.

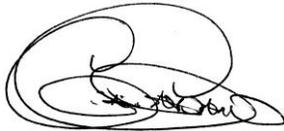
In addition, rather than implementing a staged move-in to our residence halls beginning on August 17, we have decided not to begin bringing residential students back to campus until September 4, further reducing density on campus at the start of the academic year.

Our expectation has been that FDU's restart of on-campus activities would follow the State's moving to Stage 3. However, if we move forward with limited Stage 2

activities, we would permit in-person instruction only for courses that absolutely require in-person interaction when in-person classes resume on September 14. Those courses include clinical rotations, some laboratory courses, and courses requiring hands-on programming. Furthermore, we would reduce residence hall density by an additional 25% (as compared with Stage 3) by converting more double rooms to single rooms, and we would not permit any in-door dining on campus except for dining in individual residence hall rooms. In addition, we would reduce capacity limits in our libraries and computer labs to 25%, and we would limit in-person faculty and student research by reducing the number of faculty and students who could be together in a laboratory or other indoor setting at the same time to no more than 10 persons, while observing strict distancing, masking, and hand sanitizing guidelines.

I hope this reply is satisfactory in providing the additional information you were seeking. If not, please let me know.

Best as always,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Capuano", enclosed within a large, loopy, circular flourish.

Christopher A. Capuano, Ph.D.
President
Fairleigh Dickinson University