

From: Luis Cifuentes <lacifuen@nmsu.edu>
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Subject: MONDAY Campus Research Update

Dear research, scholarship and creative activity community,

NMSU has been working diligently on a plan to bring back research in a measured, safe way. David Schoep in EHS and JoAnne Dupre and Ed Zenisek in OVPR are to be commended for the superb effort it took to get this ready.

As promised at last Thursday's Town Hall we published the *Return to Research and Creativity*. Go to <https://research.nmsu.edu/index.html>

Return to Research and Creativity Plan

Research and creative activities at New Mexico State University contribute to a vibrant system of higher education that supports our culture and commerce across the state. The university remains in constant communication with state officials regarding best management practices for COVID-19 and recognizes that vigilance and flexibility is needed to adapt to a dynamic, rapidly changing situation. The top priority of the plan is the health, safety and wellness of students, faculty and employees.

NMSU has been working diligently on a plan to bring back research in a measured, safe way. Deans, department heads, unit leaders and the Vice President for Research are reviewing plans submitted by investigators and setting priorities on which research activities can resume. Research activities will continue to be increased using a graduated, phased approach with regular assessments of key

and click on the *Return to Research* link on the upper right. The website is a work in progress and you will be informed when substantial changes take place.

The plan is to move from Phase 2 to Phase 3 on June 1, 2020 (scroll down to *Phase Summary*), which will allow for greater on-site research activities. Even if you have already received a waiver/exception to conduct research on-site, you will be required to fill out a web-based *Justification for Critical Research Designation* and *Research / Site-Specific COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan*, review training documents/videos, and self-certify by completing an electronic *Commitment to Public Health Practices* form. These forms will be available at start of business Thursday. Finally, speak with your department head or director before proceeding with your request to return on-site.

Contact David Schoep or JoAnne Dupre with comment or questions.

Thank you for your hard work and patience through these difficult times.

Have a great week,

Luis

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