Forward Together Update, March 16, 2021

University of Northern Iowa

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Forward Together Update

March 16, 2021

Dear Panther Community,

For those considering celebrating St. Patrick's Day tomorrow or other future events, please know that the CDC encourages people to celebrate virtually or outside and at least 6 feet apart from others. As always, wearing masks is an important way to reduce the spread of coronavirus and is required in all UNI buildings and outdoors when physical distancing is difficult to maintain.

While the number of COVID-19 cases has been declining nationally, the numbers are holding steady in the state and region. With the increased spread of more infectious variants, there is continued concern about another wave of coronavirus cases.

Thanks to each of you for staying the course and making a difference. We encourage all to continue wearing masks, remaining socially distanced, washing your hands, using the Panther Health survey, and getting tested as needed.

Vaccine Updates

There is more good news on the vaccination front, with the number of people being vaccinated each week increasing exponentially.

Iowa administered its 1 millionth dose last week and nationally more than 70 million people have now received at least one dose.

The federal government has called for states to expand eligibility for vaccines to everyone by May 1 and pledged to have enough doses for every adult by the end of May. As always, we will continue to update campus as new information becomes available. UNI stands ready to assist Black Hawk County with distributing the vaccines.

International Travel

The Board of Regents recently lifted the international travel ban they had imposed last March. At this point, UNI will continue to follow established procedures for requesting permission to travel internationally, which includes making a request through your
department head or supervisor to your division Vice President. The Vice President will
discuss the request with the President who will make the final decision.

If you have a question, please visit forwardtogether.uni.edu or email it
to forwardtogether@uni.edu. Thanks for all that you do to keep yourself, your family
and the Panther community safe.

Stay Well,

John Vallentine,
Associate Provost for Faculty

Joseph Rayzor,
Director of Risk Management, Environmental Health and Safety