
From: Lynn Cooley, Dean of the Graduate School <grad.dean@message.yale.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 4:09 PM
Subject: A follow-up to Provost Strobel's message re reactivation

Yale

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Copied to: GSAS faculty, registrars, staff

In this message: What Provost Strobel's message means for graduate students

May 13, 2020

Dear Graduate Students,

By now, you have read Provost Scott Strobel's message about our gradual return to on-campus activities over the coming months. Research very much defines the Graduate School's mission, and I know you will find it encouraging, as I do, that we are progressing toward a cautious return to laboratories and libraries.

Provost Strobel outlined a three-phase approach toward reactivating university research. Right now, we are preparing to enter Phase 1, which begins on June 1. This means:

- Some laboratory research beyond critical operations and projects with a strictly COVID-19 focus will be re-activated with strict protective measures in place.
- Faculty, staff and trainees will be able to return to campus to carry out work that can only be done in a lab. Other work such as writing, lab meetings and journalism clubs must continue remotely.
- Faculty will develop a detailed safety plan for their labs encompassing social distancing, PPE, cleaning, and symptoms monitoring for approval by their dean.
- Graduate students may return to campus to resume laboratory research if comfortable with the level of safety or continue remote work.

- University-funded travel restrictions remain in place so remote field work will not resume at this time. Research requiring local field work will be evaluated by a committee with more details to follow.
- In-person human subjects research is not approved for Phase 1.
- There will be more information about the availability of childcare coming from [YaleWorkLife](#) before June 1.
- Libraries will provide scanning and digitization of collections, starting with Sterling Memorial Library, Bass Library and the offsite Library Shelving Facility (LSF). Pick-up service for books from Sterling and Bass will also begin. [Yale Library](#) will send out communications detailing services.

Looking to the fall semester, the Graduate School academic calendar will start on or soon after the first day of Orientation during the third week of August. We will provide more information soon.

Finally, we are able to consider a return to campus because as a community we have adopted the practices of social distancing, wearing masks, and staying home to the extent possible. Thank you for your resilience, flexibility and hard work in adjusting to the demands of the global pandemic. We will update you as soon as we have more information and we begin to progress toward Phase 2. Until then, please do not hesitate to contact me and the GSAS staff if you have any questions.

With best wishes for your health and success,

Lynn Cooley

Dean, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

C.N.H. Long Professor of Genetics

Professor of Cell Biology and of Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology

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