



## Vice Chancellor of Research

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Colleagues:

Some news from the office of the VCR:

### Research Laboratories

As the Chancellor has made it very clear, S&T is open for business: we teach, we serve, we perform research. I realize that performing research right now is more difficult, and in some cases has slowed down significantly. This, though, is temporary. Currently a number of research laboratories are operating under controlled access conditions, while some others have moved all operations on line. I also realize that a many other research labs are currently non-operational.

Balancing continuity of research with public safety is a very difficult task, and I appreciate your patience and understanding in these unprecedented times. I formed a committee of four faculty to evaluate requests for controlled access to research laboratories: Drs. Khayat, Lueking, Mormile, and O'Malley. The committee evaluated many requests based on the following criteria:

#### Category A

- Activity that if discontinued would pose a safety hazard.
- Activity that maintains critical equipment in facilities and laboratories.
- Activity that maintains animal and other living populations.
- Activity in support of essential human subjects research.

#### Category B

- COVID-19 related activity that has a timeline for deployment that could address the crisis.
- Activity that if discontinued would generate significant data and sample loss.
- Activity that maintains critical samples, reagents, and materials.
- Clinical trial activity that if discontinued would negatively impact the patient's care.

#### Category C

- PI only / Extreme isolation.
- Immediate funding deadline will be impacted.
- Immediate student graduation will be impacted.

#### Category D

- New/routine experiments.

The committee has approved all controlled access requests for Category A and B laboratories. If the University, System, State, or Nation require continued limitation of group activities, including research, the committee and my office will consider Category C requests under a new controlled access protocol.

The following laboratories are currently open for research through limited access protocols:

<b>Building</b>	<b>Room(s)</b>
Animal Research Facility	
BCH	104, 107, 108, 109, 111, 112, 202, 204, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 302, 303, 309, 310, 311
Bertelsmeyer	114, 116, 213, 216, 223, 235
ERL	G4, G5, G6, G8, 212A
Fulton Hall	G9, G10
McNutt	B18A, B18B
McNutt	104, 106, 112, 256, 307
Physics	G2, G8, G9, G10, G10A, G14, 115, 204
Schrenk	G1, G6, G9, G13, G35, 110B, 110C, 110D, 110F, 125, 145, 209, 211, 222, 224, 225, 232, 238, 315, 325, 332, 337, 337B, 340
SJH	G4, G6, 101, 105, 108, 130, 203, 219, 223, 305, 317
Toomey	151

### OSP

OSP staff continue to work to submit proposals, accept awards, and work in post-award. We faced some University-wide issued on Monday, 3/23, related to VPN, but this has been corrected, and I am signing PSRS, proposals, and award letters.

I encourage you to continue your research proposal activity. As my office received information about COVID-19-related emergency RFPs, I will pass those along. And remember to respond to NSF's RAPID program about COVID-19.

### Agency Guidelines

On March 19 OMB released the M-20-17 memo supporting grants flexibility and describing other administrative reliefs: [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/M-20-17.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0IBTmgLCojGyexyxEPA2HeJEc\\_qvwAJ-pAhff88Jc2QKi0znm2ow5tBzHs](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/M-20-17.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0IBTmgLCojGyexyxEPA2HeJEc_qvwAJ-pAhff88Jc2QKi0znm2ow5tBzHs)

Note that the memo gives agencies the ability to provide flexibility, but does not require it.

We also looked at a number of agency resources collected at:

<https://www.cogr.edu/institutional-and-agency-responses-covid-19-and-additional-resources#agencyguidance>

So far there is no news from these agencies regarding deliverables, RFP and report deadlines, no cost extensions, etc. We will continue to report to you any news from funding agencies.

I recommend that you contact your program managers to see if they have additional guidance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Tsatsoulis', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Costas Tsatsoulis  
Vice Chancellor of Research & Dean of Graduate Studies  
Missouri University of Science and Technology