RESEARCH TOWN HALL

Sandra A. Brown
Vice Chancellor for Research

April 15, 2020
Pradeep Khosla
Chancellor
David Brenner
Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences
Margaret Leinen
Vice Chancellor for Marine Sciences
Director of Scripps Institution of Oceanography
The Current Situation

Dr. Chip Schooley

• Globally: Rising case count driven by US and Europe: 1,970,879
• Nationally: 605,193 cases (>1/3rd in New York)
  – Expect the disease now to shift to the Southeast and mid-west
• California: 25,356 cases (#6 in US) but with a much flatter curve
• San Diego: reasonably “spared” so far
  – 1930 reported cases, 53 deaths, 164 in intensive care
• UC San Diego
  – Rise from 17→27 inpatients over past 2 weeks
  – Likely near our peak based on epidemic modeling
• Social distancing is working.
Research Continuity

GUIDING PRINCIPLE: TO MAINTAIN AND PROTECT THE HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBERS, WHILE MAINTAINING RESEARCH ACTIVITY

• Modify all research to reduce on-site activity, presence of staff
  – Reduce on-site activity to focus on “critical” research, no more than 1–2 persons on site, or (at most) <15% of normal staff density
  – Comply with CDC guidelines regarding physical distancing and sanitization of common workspaces
• Update and resubmit on-site activity plans to department chair if change in personnel or activity

• Personnel should always be kept to a minimum (both at one time, and over time)

• Sanitize regularly (shared equipment as well as doorknobs, light switches, counters, railings, chairs … anywhere people regularly touch)

• Students (graduate and undergraduate) should not be in research facilities unless required to complete their research
Launching plans to scale up UCSD research

• Campus-wide committee will develop process and plans to scale research up as quickly as we can do safely

• Research ramp-up will be in full alignment with university’s overall plans for scaling up activity

• Health risks associated with different types of research will determine process of scaling up

Planning committee: Faculty, Academic Senate, COR, Animal Research, Clinical Trials, Human Subjects, EH&S, Emergency Operations, Public Health/Epidemiology, all Schools and Divisions, UCSD Health
California’s 6 indicators for modifying the Stay-at-Home Order

1. Monitor and protect communities through testing, contact tracing, isolating & supporting those who are positive or exposed
2. Prevent infection in people who are most at risk
3. Handle surges in the hospital and health systems
4. Develop therapeutics to meet demand
5. Ensure businesses, schools, and child care facilities can support physical distancing
6. Determine when to reinstitute certain measures, such as the stay-at-home orders

covid19.ca.gov
• Institutional requirement for remote/virtual activity only, EXCEPT:
  – COVID-19 research
  – Clinical trials of drugs and devices with therapeutic intent

• For the above:
  – Reduction of face-to-face activity is still required
  – Continue treatment and safety monitoring as per protocol
  – New enrollment allowed for serious or life-threatening diseases

• IRB guidance (https://irb.ucsd.edu)
  – Limited need to amend or report
  – Coming: remote consent guidance; new form for secondary uses

• Central COVID resources
  – Biorepository– David Boyle (dboyle@ucsd.edu)
  – Data– Lucila Ohno–Machado (machado@ucsd.edu)/Mike Hogarth (mihogarth@ucsd.edu)
  – FDA EUA assistance– Hillary Kalay (hillary.kalay@ucop.edu)
Animal Care Program: Operations

Phil Richter

- Animal housing locations remain fully operational.
- ACP providing full husbandry and research support, and after-hours emergency response.
- Research laboratory personnel continue to access animal facilities as needed.
- ACP has increased the frequency of decontamination to minimize the potential for personnel exposure to SARS-CoV-2.
- ACP staff are helping investigators with limited access.
- Locations to support COVID-19 animal research are being discussed.
Supporting Research Staff

UC policy on job protection for career staff prevents layoffs for Covid-related reasons through June 30th.

- Enable research staff who cannot work on-site to contribute to research program by working remotely
- Underutilized staff may be temporarily assigned to work on other projects
- HR's Temporary Work Opportunity Clearinghouse is a resource for non-academic staff

If grants/contracts expire or are depleted before June 30th, current terms of employment contract apply.

Supplemental funding from agencies may be available for some portion of these costs.
# Paid Administrative Leave

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UC Expanded Paid Administrative Leave</th>
<th>FFCRA Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL)</th>
<th>FFCRA Expanded Family and Medical Leave (EFML)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum potential entitlement: FTE: Up to 128 hours</td>
<td>Maximum potential entitlement: FTE: 80 hours</td>
<td>Maximum potential entitlement: Up to 12 workweeks for any eligible EE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-Time EE: Prorated by appointment percentage</td>
<td>Part-Time EE: Two-week equivalent</td>
<td>First 2 weeks unpaid unless EE elects to use other available paid leave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-time allotment</td>
<td></td>
<td>Health care workers and emergency responders are not eligible for EFML</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No prior service requirements</td>
<td>No prior service requirements</td>
<td>On UC payroll for the 30 calendar days immediately prior to the leave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must be taken in whole day increments but may be taken intermittently</td>
<td>Must be taken in two-week block</td>
<td>Must be taken in blocks of at minimum two weeks</td>
</tr>
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<td>FFCRA Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used for the following purposes:</td>
<td>Used for the following qualifying reasons:</td>
<td>Used for the following qualifying reason:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. EE unable to work due to own or</td>
<td>EE unable to work or telework because of:</td>
<td>EE unable to work or telework because of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>family member’s COVID-19 related</td>
<td>1. Quarantine or isolation order</td>
<td>caring for child whose school/place of care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>illness</td>
<td>2. Told by health care provider to self-</td>
<td>is closed or child care provider unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>quarantine</td>
<td>due to COVID-19 (same as reason #5 under EPSL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. EE unable to work because directed</td>
<td>3. Experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and</td>
<td>Any prior use of Family &amp; Medical Leave Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not to come to worksite for COVID-19</td>
<td>seeking diagnosis</td>
<td>(FMLA) entitlement in 2020 reduces EE’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>related reasons and/or worksite</td>
<td>4. Caring for individual subject to</td>
<td>entitlement under EFML. Any use of EFML also</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>implemented COVID-19 related remote</td>
<td>quarantine/isolation order or who was</td>
<td>reduces FMLA entitlement in 2020 assuming EE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>work or is under shelter in place</td>
<td>told by health care provider to</td>
<td>is eligible for FMLA. First two weeks of EFML</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>order and it is not</td>
<td>self-quarantine*</td>
<td>are unpaid unless EE elects to use other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>operationally feasible for employee</td>
<td></td>
<td>available paid leave. An EE’s maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to work remotely</td>
<td></td>
<td>potential paid entitlement under expanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>family and medical leave is 10 workweeks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. EE unable to work due to COVID-19</td>
<td>5. Caring for child whose school/place</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>related school or daycare closure</td>
<td>of care is closed or child care provider</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>which requires EE to be at home with</td>
<td>unavailable due to COVID-19*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a child or dependent and not</td>
<td>6. Other substantially similar condition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>operationally feasible for EE to work</td>
<td>specified by HHS Secretary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in conjunction with childcare</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>commitment.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The use of UC Expanded Paid Administrative Leave “shall not adversely affect the delivery of essential university services, including in particular, the clinical services delivered by UC Health.”

* Health care workers and emergency responders are not eligible to take EPSL for reasons 4 or 5.
Keys for research hires

• Hires on extramural funds are subject to review before posting. Exceptions must be approved by department chair, dean and VC.
  – Sufficient extramural funds are required
  – Hiring unit assumes responsibility for obligations if a funding shortfall

• Postdoctoral Scholars must be reviewed by the Office of Postdoctoral and Research Scholar Affairs.

• Hires require **revision of on-site research plans** and chair/dean approval
Funding Agency Flexibilities

Per OMB guidance, numerous federal agencies have adopted flexibilities for grants/cooperative agreements impacted by COVID–19. Examples include:

• Late proposal submissions
• No–cost extensions and prior approval requests
• Reporting obligations (progress, financial, etc.)
• Allowability of salaries, stipends and benefits (as allowed by UC Policies)
• Travel costs (non–refundable costs associated with travel)
• Supplemental funding requests

Documentation referring to impact caused by COVID–19 is required

More information is available at
blink.ucsd.edu/go/ocga–covid19–sponsors
blink.ucsd.edu/go/ocga–covid19–federal
blink.ucsd.edu/go/ocga–covid19–at–a–glance–federal
Track and document all expenses caused by or related to the pandemic

• For potential reimbursement of expenditures from FEMA (if eligible)
• For potential reimbursement through agency supplements
• For reporting using key words available in Kuali PD (Project impacted by COVID-19)

Example: Updated NIH Guidance addresses costs associated with donating NIH-funded research supplies to meet emergency needs, such as PPE donated to hospitals/clinics

• grant recipients may re-budget to repurchase supplies,
• use unobligated balances, or
• submit administrative supplement requests

but NIH can only provide additional funds to support supplies that are directly charged to the project(s)
COVID-19 Emergency Legislation
(March 6-27, 2020)
Angela Phillips Diaz

- **Phase 1**: $3B+ vaccine, therapeutic & diagnostics R&D, includes $826M NIH
- **Phase 2**: established free coronavirus testing, paid leave and enhanced unemployment insurance
- **Phase 3**: funding to expand COVID-19 related research: NIH $945.5M; NSF $75M; DoE Office of Science $99.5M; NIST $6M; EPA $2M
- **Phase 3.5**: $250B-$500B small businesses, hospitals, universities

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Coronavirus Preparedness & Response Act
3/6/20 (Phase 1)

Families First Act
3/18/20 (Phase 2)

CARES Act
3/27/20 (Phase 3)

Phase 3.5
Early May?

Phase 4, 5?
TBD
Priorities for Upcoming Supplementals

Funding: Additional funding to assist research institutions in addressing costs related to the forced suspension/slowdown of federally supported research (workforce, students, maintenance, core facilities)

Administrative Burden: Coordination by OSTP of federal agency actions to reduce administrative burden (short term relief for administrative, financial management, and audit requirements)

Timely Disbursement of federal funds

Advocacy with Members of Congress is Ongoing
Covid-19, SARS-CoV-2 Research Portal

https://blink.ucsd.edu/research/covid-19/research-ops.html
Connecting researchers and research

- **Earth2.0 CO-RESPOND** is a UCSD-based international initiative that provides *rapid-response solutions* to *front-line clinicians, clinician-scientists and researchers* in all aspects of COVID-19. The objective is to help accelerate the transfer of knowledge between individuals, research teams and partners in local, national and global settings, by moderating and curating crowd-sourced expertise to the benefit of advancing public health, health care research and health care systems. ([earth2-covid.ucsd.edu](http://earth2-covid.ucsd.edu))

- **San Diego Covid REsearch Enterprise Network (SCREEN)** is a grassroots-driven, multi-institutional effort (UC San Diego, the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, Scripps Research, San Diego State University, the Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute, La Jolla Institute for Immunology, Rady’s Children Hospital, and many biotech and technology collaborators) to coordinate research and connect researchers. ([https://screencovid.info](https://screencovid.info))
Funding Opportunities (federal, private)

A sampling:

**DoD:** Newton Award for Transformative Ideas ($100k, deadline May 15th)
Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (May 28th and June 8th)

**DoE:** RfI for scientific questions re: Covid–19 that researchers may answer using DoE facilities and infrastructure (rolling)

**NASA:** Making Innovative Use of Satellite Data ($100k, through March, 2021)

**NIH:** Competitive Revisions to address SARS–CoV–2 at numerous institutes

**NSF:** RAPID grants (up to $200k, rolling deadline)

**Russell Sage Foundation** (social sciences, $175k, May 21st)

Current RFPs  [https://blink.ucsd.edu/research/covid-19/research-ops.html#Research-Opportunities](https://blink.ucsd.edu/research/covid-19/research-ops.html#Research-Opportunities)

[researchdevelopment@ucsd.edu](mailto:researchdevelopment@ucsd.edu)
Funding Opportunities (UC)
Miroslav Krstic  researchdevelopment@ucsd.edu

UCOP: Emergency Covid–19 Research Seed Funding
rolling deadline, $25k cap, first come–first served ($2M fund)

UCSD Seed Grants: One–time, non–renewable awards of $5K for six months
One–page abstracts due April 16, 11:59 pm, via https://ucsd.infoready4.com

• Pandemic modeling and analysis
• High performance computing consortium
• AI and machine learning

• Materials and manufacturing to address supply chain issues
• Clinical and surveillance testing issues
• Medical therapeutics

researchdevelopment@ucsd.edu
We're distancing, but ready to help

All UC San Diego research offices are open and ready to assist you:

- ACTRI
- Animal Care Program
- Environmental Health and Safety
- HSSPPO
- Human Research Protections Program
- Office of Contract and Grant Administration
- Office of Innovation and Commercialization
- Office of Postdoctoral and Research Scholar Affairs
- Research Compliance and Integrity
- SIO-Office of Contract and Grant Administration
- UCSD Security and Police Department

Contact us at research@ucsd.edu or 858-534-9758
Questions?

Chancellor Pradeep Khosla, VC David Brenner, VC Margaret Leinen, Dr. Chip Schooley, Dean James McKerrow, SAVC Miroslav Krstic, Nancy Resnick (HR)

Animal Care: Phil Richter  
EARTH 2.0 Co-Respond: Linda Hill  
EH&S: Lance Scott  
Government Relations: Kaitlin Chell, Angela Phillips Diaz  
Graduate Division: Judy Kim  
Innovation & Commercialization: Paul Roben  

IRB: Kip Kantelo  
Research Compliance & Integrity: Angie McMahill  
Research Proposal Development: Sharon Franks  
SCREEN Network: Rob Knight, Gene Yeo  
Sponsored Program Offices: Linda Collins, Frank Truong, Erika Wilson

Please use Q&A button on the bottom of your webinar screen
Exceptions to on-site activity reduction

All on-site activity is and will continue to be reduced, but somewhat higher-than-recommended activity is permitted, following departmental approval, when:

- Curtailment of activity would jeopardize the health of human participants (in clinical trials involving FDA-regulated interventions treating serious or life-threatening diseases) or animals
- Study is near completion, and requires near-full staff to complete
- Suspension or curtailment of activity would seriously jeopardize the entire project (loss of subjects in longitudinal study, missing measurement of rare events, etc.)
- Research requires collection or maintenance of critical materials that cannot be replaced (cell lines or biospecimens) or research equipment
- Research is directed at responding to the COVID-19 pandemic