

Q&A Session - On-Site Research Activities – December 2, 2020

Initial Comments:

- 1) The level of participation at these forums continues to decrease. This is a good thing as it indicates a wide level of awareness amongst the scientific community regarding what needs to be done to continue to perform research safely. Beginning in January, we will meet on a monthly basis.
- 2) Illinois case numbers are slightly improved this past week, but remain at a high level. Please be reminded to be cautious when out in public. Wear masks, social distance and continue to wash your hands. The RFU Clinic in the past week has seen an increase in people that are showing symptoms. So please be vigilant.
- 3) Please note that if you need to get in touch with an RFU engineer, the procedure has changed. The new procedure is to contact the engineer through Campus Safety. Please alert Campus Safety as to whether a situation is urgent, as this will enhance the response time.

Q: Regarding Autoclaves in the IRP -

A: Be aware that the autoclaves will be serviced beginning December 6, 2020. They will be repaired over a 3 day period beginning with the second floor. Plan accordingly.

Q: Is it still required that staff/personnel be tested weekly?

A: YES. The weekly testing will continue indefinitely until notified otherwise.

Q: The floors on the 3rd and 4th floor Liquid Nitrogen filling areas are beginning to show cracks, and the tiles are beginning to bubble up. Could this be from over filling the dewars?

A: Most likely this is from over-filling the dewars and Bob Jackson is looking into replacing the floors with a more durable floor tile and or the use of rubber mats in these areas.

For specific guidelines regarding the labs and BRF, please be sure to regularly view the policies at the URL: <https://rfums-bigtree.s3.amazonaws.com/files/resources/rfu-on-site-research-resumption-guidelines-6-3-202.pdf> The link will have updates and past Q&A sessions for your review.

Please be reminded that you should work remotely as much as possible.

We will meet again in the new year - **January 6, 2021**, and meetings will occur on a monthly basis. However, if you have something that comes up before then, please reach out to Dr. Kaplan's office directly.