

Subject: Virtual town hall sessions for KU research community

Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 1:28:39 PM Central Daylight Time

From: Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research

To: KU Lawrence All Staff, Faculty and Affiliates, All KU Lawrence and Edwards Students



OFFICE OF RESEARCH

Dear KU Research Community,

Thank you for rising to the challenges that have confronted us so intensely these past few weeks. The steps you are taking to adapt your research and teaching during this unprecedented time – though undoubtedly disruptive and unsettling – are making our community safer and helping to ensure that we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic in a position of strength and solidarity.

On Friday, we announced the [suspension of all non-essential research activities](#) that require personnel to be on the Lawrence and Edwards campuses. The impacts of that response on KU's research enterprise are not entirely known. To help address questions and concerns, the Office of Research is hosting a series of virtual town hall meetings.

Please join us for any of the following sessions on Friday, March 27:

1. **Wet and dry lab researchers**
10:15 – 10:45 a.m. | [Zoom link](#)
2. **Human subjects researchers**
11 – 11:30 a.m. | [Zoom link](#)
3. **Theoretical/computational researchers**
11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. | [Zoom link](#)

You may submit questions via chat during the sessions and/or in advance by

emailing ovcr@ku.edu. Audio and video for attendees will be disabled. Recordings will be available after the sessions on the [Office of Research coronavirus response webpage](#).

Please stay tuned to your university email and monitor [KU's coronavirus website](#) for the latest information about institution-wide responses to COVID-19. You may also consult our [research-related FAQs](#) for additional guidance or [contact us](#) any time to ask questions or report unmet needs.

I'll close on an inspirational note: At 5 p.m. Sunday, we issued a call to the KU research community to lend COVID-19 testing supplies to the State of Kansas in response to a request from Gov. Laura Kelly's office. In less than 24 hours, you cleaned out your labs and helped KU contribute an impressive number of Qiagen nucleic acid columns and similar pieces of equipment with the potential to bolster the state's testing efforts. I'm proud to be part of a research community characterized not only by its spirit of curiosity and innovation, but also by its incredible resilience and generosity.

With gratitude,
Simon

Simon Atkinson
Vice Chancellor for Research

