

A Resolution of the Bowling Green State University Faculty Senate

Title: Resolution to Conduct a Survey of Members of the University Community

Presented on: July 7, 2020

By: Christopher Frey

On behalf of: the Senate Executive Committee.

WHEREAS Bowling Green State University students, faculty, and staff have been teaching, learning, working, and meeting remotely since Spring Break 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic; (1)

AND WHEREAS, according to the [World Health Organization](#), there have been more than 2.6 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States with, on average, more than 35,000 new cases per day ($M = 37,577$, $SD = 6.580$, over the ten days from Jun 23 to Jul 2), which have resulted in more than 127,000 deaths; (2)

AND WHEREAS “the onset and duration of viral shedding and the period of infectiousness for COVID-19 are not yet known” (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/faq.html>) but evidence suggests that pre-symptomatic and asymptomatic persons may be able to transmit COVID-19 to others; (3)

AND WHEREAS the appropriate use of facial coverings, maintaining a physical distance of six feet or more from others, and frequent handwashing are known to reduce but not eliminate the risk of community transmission of COVID-19; (4)

AND WHEREAS BGSU has committed to minimizing health risks to members of the University Community and protecting the health and safety of faculty, staff, and students; (5)

AND WHEREAS BGSU currently plans to allow faculty, staff, and students to return to campus for Fall 2020 and subsequent semesters under planned health protocols and safety precautions, which include mandatory use of facial coverings, physical distancing, and increased cleaning and sanitation protocols (see <https://www.bgsu.edu/coronavirus/return-to-campus.html>); (6)

AND WHEREAS, although these plans, protocols, and precautions were developed by competent stakeholders and members of the University Community, which included administrators, faculty, staff, and healthcare professionals, they were necessarily developed quickly and were not widely shared with all members of the University Community for review and comment; (7)

AND WHEREAS the public health situation surrounding COVID-19 is constantly evolving, and more is learned about the virus and about public reaction to its threat; (8)

AND WHEREAS, although some surveys have been conducted to collect the perceptions and feedback of members of the University Community, those surveys were conducted long enough ago that the perceptions of those stakeholders may have changed as new information has emerged and conditions have changed; (9)

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that a special ad hoc committee be formed to author and conduct a survey of all subgroups of the University Community (as defined by Part (A), Article (2) of the [Academic Charter](#)) to collect stakeholders’ level of comfort with the protocols and precautions described in BGSU’s [Return to Campus plan](#), willingness and degree of commitment to comply with the requirements and restrictions that this plan places on their personal behavior, perceptions of (10)

the degree of safety inherent in returning to campus this fall, and willingness to return to campus under the current plans, precautions, and protocols;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this special ad hoc committee shall comprise fewer than 10 members (to conduct its work relatively quickly) and that the Faculty Senate SEC and the Provost shall each have the opportunity to appoint up to two representatives to the special ad hoc committee, and that all other constituent groups (Classified Staff Council, Administrative Staff Council, Graduate Student Senate, and Undergraduate Student Government) and the Faculty Association shall each have the opportunity to appoint one representative; (11)

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the stakeholder survey shall be sent to members of all subgroups of the University Community on the morning of Wednesday, July 15, and shall be open to receive responses through Friday, July 24; (12)

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that preliminary findings shall be presented for discussion at the next special on-call SEC meeting on July 28, and a full report of findings shall be presented at the next special on-call Faculty Senate meeting on August 4. (13)