

Dear all,

I sent out a detailed email on Friday with an update on the wearing of face-coverings while teaching and some other Q&A updates to the [New Academic Year Guide for Staff](#). If you missed this, previous HR Notices from Internal Communications are available [here](#). For today, some brief extra COVID-19 planning information and campus news.

External Visitors

For now, external visitors should only be coming to the UL campus for work-related purposes if the online-meeting option is not viable. In this case, your Head of Department needs to give permission and you should follow the visitor management guidelines, available [here](#).

Travel for Work Related Purposes

In the context of the changes in guidelines around COVID-19 and travel, and clarifying that staff are covered by our insurance for national and international travel, the Executive Committee are due to consider a proposal from HR in relation to work-related travel for UL staff. As soon as the position is agreed, it will be communicated.

Blended Working Equipment

As outlined previously, the Executive Committee has approved a central budget for the purchase of certain office equipment to support blended working. To request equipment, please follow this link [Working Equipment - UL | SSP \(topdesk.net\)](#). When you complete the relevant home or office working kit form, all correspondence, such as a collection time/date will be confirmed via your call number. You will need your UL ID to receive your equipment.

Departments and divisions are asked to request that orders are put in by individual staff members to help with tracking and delivery. The delivery of the equipment is scheduled for the end of this week and can be ordered through the above link from next week on.

Off-Campus Student Activity

On Friday, the Provost, Professor Nigel Healey, emailed all students about anti-social behaviour off-campus, and the negative impact that this is having on our neighbours, and on the reputation of UL. The context was a formal complaint made to the University about a video on social media which appears to show serious damage to a house in the local community following a party. While an official investigation will determine whether UL students were involved, Professor Healey also appealed to any landlord renting an off-campus property to UL students to [contact](#) the University and report students who engage in behaviour that is likely to bring the University of Limerick into disrepute.

Allegations of breaches of the UL Code of Conduct must be made to the Complaints, Discipline and Vetting Unit of the University. Once a complaint has been made, it is assessed by the Advocate and, where it is within the jurisdiction of the University, dealt with as deemed appropriate. The complainant is asked to provide sufficient information to enable the University Advocate to undertake an investigation.

On a longer-term basis, the University is working to identify and put in place structures to foster good relations with our local community.

UL Foundation Impact Report

UL Foundation [launched](#) its Impact Report 2021 this week. The report showcases the power of philanthropy across the University of Limerick campus over the last year. Harvey Duthie and Sarah Hartnett were joined for the launch by UL Ambassador Peter O'Mahony. A full copy of the report can be read and downloaded [here](#).

HR Research

A reminder to all Researchers about the [Researcher Development Programme](#) which is available to join at any time. The programme consists of a suite of training programmes and 'lunch and learn' sessions where researchers can learn the skills needed to excel in their research and forge successful careers. For more information and to hear from Professor Norelee Kennedy about the programme, take a look at the [Researcher Development Programme](#) webpages.

Contact hrbookings@ul.ie to book a place and for more information about the courses available in the Learning and Development schedule, please go to: [Training Programmes and Schedule](#).

If you have a moment, please take a look at our new [Research Staff](#) pages on the HR website and let us know what you think.

Finally, a reminder that the virtual launch of the Limerick Digital Cancer Research Centre is taking place next Wednesday. Follow this [link](#) for more information about this joint initiative from UL and UL Hospitals Group and to register to attend.

Best wishes,

Eoin