

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Food, Nutrition and Health
Faculty of Land and Food Systems
2205 East Mall
Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6T 1Z4

David D. Kitts
Associate Dean Research,
Professor. Food Chemistry &
Toxicology,
243 FNH Building, 2205 East Mall,
UBC.
David.kitts@ubc.ca

TO: all LFS Faculty members

RE: Approval of LFS Faculty Research Resumption plan

On Thursday June 11 the Faculty received the news from VRPI and the UBC Executive that our Faculty Research Resumption plan has been formally approved. This is great news for the researchers, staff and students who have been patiently waiting for the chance to get back into the laboratories to resume or complete their research projects.

The next steps in the process are for individual faculty members to develop return-to-research plans for their own research spaces based on the [COVID-19 Land and Food Systems Workspace Safety Plan template](#) and then submit these plans for approval by the LFS Research Resumption Committee:

- *David Kitts, Associate Dean of Research*
- *Sue Grayston, Program Director, Applied Biology*
- *Christine Scaman, Program Director, FNH*
- *Sean Smukler, Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies*
- *Nicholas Grant, Research Facilitator*
- *Andy Jeffries, Faculty Operations Manager*
- *Patrick Leung, Food, Nutrition, and Health Building Manager*
- *Imelda Cheung, MCML Research Lab Technician*
- *Peter Hoffman, FNH Research Lab Technician*
- *Baohua Wang, Research Assistant, Dean's Office*

To help facilitate this process, a [Research Resumption page](#) has been set up with detailed references and documents. Completed plans and laboratory access requests can be forwarded for review to: -lfs-restart@lists.ubc.ca

The deadline for submissions will be **by noon on Friday, June 19th 2020** to allow for equity and efficiency in the approval and planning process. Approved plans must include a signed [VPRI access agreement](#) posted on the laboratory door along with acknowledgement and agreement to follow all health and safety guidelines detailed in the [LFS resumption plan](#) and [FNH / MCML Building safety plans](#).

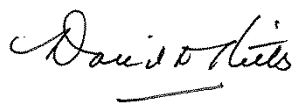
As per University and provincial directives, work that can be done remotely (i.e. from home) should continue to be done remotely. “High” priority access during Phase 1 of the resumption will be given to graduate students who need access to wet laboratory facilities and who are within 6 months of completion of their degree programs (see Section 4, Prioritization of Access, in the [LFS Research Resumption Planning Document](#)). Researchers who hold active exemptions from the curtailment period will continue to be granted access as per the terms of their exemption, however they will be required to complete and submit a [COVID-19 Land and Food Systems Workspace Safety Plan](#) to facilitate scheduling and workplace quota determinations with personnel returning through Phase 1 approvals.

Requests for access to office space will be handled on a case-by-case basis to ensure occupancy levels are maintained and in place for faculty, staff and research personnel who cannot work at home or are essential to the operation and support of the faculty. For those whose need for access to on-campus resources extends only to the use of office space, we ask that you forward a request including schedule/room information to lfs-restart@lists.ubc.ca.

Conditional on the continuing favourable evolution of COVID-19 epidemiological data, and following guidance from BC Health Officials working with UBC leadership, the research resumption would progress to Phase 2, which would allow for the return of additional lab personnel falling in the “moderate” need category (see Section 4, Prioritization of Access, in the LFS Research Resumption Planning Document). PIs would then be required to submit a revised Workspace Plan reflecting any new personnel and laboratory procedural changes for review and approval. Full details on Phase 2 will be released in the coming weeks.

On behalf of the Research Resumption Committee, I would like to express my thanks for your patience and support thus far in the process. We look forward to reviewing your plans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David D. Kitts". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a short horizontal line.

David D. Kitts
Associate Dean Research,
Professor, Food Chemistry and Toxicology
Food Nutrition and Health,
UBC Faculty of Land and Food Systems