SHOP SAFETY UPDATES

Covid 19 has presented campus shops with an unprecedented set of challenges. The Student Shops have the monumental task of finding ways to provide academic support in the midst of a fully remote semester and have pivoted towards remote consultations and output operations. The Research Support shops are mostly back in action. Gary Bayne has visited most of them, and it seems they can perform their work reasonably well following campus COVID safety practices. The Facilities Maintenance units are operating with some restrictions. Most of them; FS, RSSP, L&S, and RFS, can maintain the distance and hygiene controls that only slow things down. The reduction in campus population has been an advantage to them and the work they can do for compliance with the COVID practices.

This is the first issue of the resumed CSSC email newsletter, through which we will attempt to keep ourselves and one another up to date on the challenges and solutions to workplace practices as we navigate these transitional times.

To facilitate feedback for these conversations, we have created a survey form. We would really appreciate your participation in sharing any issues you or your operation are facing and also if you have ideas or requests of topics you’d like to see the CSSC address.

YOU CAN ACCESS THE SURVEY FORM HERE: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSsetGdhXDkgqNWhboMPF1S0SyhD0JKcglX2a899ytKOJ5oCMwhQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0
COVID 19 CAMPUS SAFETY TRAININGS:
The following courses are required for all faculty, staff, postdocs, and student workers returning to campus:

UC Berkeley COVID 19 Health and Safety Guide for Returning to the Workplace

EHS 207 UC Berkeley Guidelines on Protecting Workers from COVID-19

Note: There is also an EHS 207 for returning students, but student workers need to take the one for workers

In addition, all employees authorized to work on campus are required to complete a symptom screener for each day that they intend to work on campus. Links to the screener are emailed to authorized employees daily.

Additional information addressing Covid 19 Leaves, pay, and work arrangements, as well as tools for managing and working remotely, can be found on the Berkeley People and Culture Covid 19 resource page:

https://hr.berkeley.edu/covid-19-resources

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES:

- Berkeley Caring for Families: Connecting families to dependent care resources. https://family.berkeley.edu/
- Berkeley Basic Needs: https://basicneeds.berkeley.edu/

CAMPUS SURVEILLANCE TESTING:
University Health Services offers regular COVID-19 screening at the Rec Sports Facility for certain campus populations. The campus is in the process of expanding the capacity to offer additional campus surveillance testing to more high priority groups over the next few weeks, including additional locations.

Currently, regular COVID-19 screening is required for students living in on-campus residential halls and highly recommended for those living in congregate housing (on-campus apartments, Greek and Co-op housing) and for staff that are considered essential campus workers as designated by their department or program.

IGI FAST (Free Asymptomatic Saliva Testing):
The Innovative Genomics Institute (IGI) at UC Berkeley is piloting a new, saliva-based test for COVID-19. The FAST study aims to establish a testing model for our campus. If you have a CalNet ID, you are invited to enroll. <https://igi-fast.berkeley.edu/>

Notice: EH&S to conduct SHOP COVID 19 INSPECTIONS
EH&S is beginning an inspection program specific to COVID 19 control compliance for shops.
This is a trial for an INSPECT app.
Gary will be dropping by to check in on shops in late September-early October.
PHYSICS STUDENT MACHINE SHOP:

Physics Student Machine Shop remains closed to student use. However, 3D printing continues to be available. Physics department students and associates can have their items 3D printed for them by sending an STL or CMB file of your part to Jesse Lopez in the Physics Student Machine Shop at jesslopez@berkeley.edu.

Though the shop is closed to students we are planning for future operations. We have recently added a Haas CNC Super Mini Mill 2, we have replaced an older manual milling machine with a new Kent KTM-4VKE, 3 axis milling machine with an Accu-Rite MillPwr Gen 2 CNC controller on it, and have purchased a much needed, new horizontal bandsaw. We hope to have all of these machines operational by the end of the year.

The Physics Research and Development Machine Shop is open!!! We are operating under COVID-19 protocols and restrictions. Currently, we can not allow for ‘walk in’ visits or requests for work, but if you would like to discuss having the Physics R&D Machine Shop do any work for you, please contact Jesse Lopez at jesslopez@berkeley.edu. You can also go to the physics@berkeley web page, navigate through Administration>>>Machine & Student Shops>>>Machine Shop Job Request Form, here You can also submit a job directly to the Physics R&D Machine Shop by visiting physics@berkeley.edu.

If you have any questions, please contact Jesse Lopez at the email address above. We look forward to reopening under normal conditions.

CITRIS INVENTION LAB:

We may be sheltered in place and maintaining social distance but no doubt your ideas and creativity continue to blossom. The CITRIS Invention Lab is here to support you.

We are are excited to launch an updated redesign of our previously successful SnapFab service to the entire UC Berkeley campus community – students, faculty, staff.

You can submit 3D printing (FDM and SLA), Laser Cutter, etc jobs to the CITRIS Invention Lab this Fall and safely pickup the result of your creativity! No Maker Pass required. <https://invent.citris-uc.org/snapfabv2.htm>

JACOB’S INSTITUTE FOR DESIGN INNOVATION:

Our Design Specialists have developed a robust program that runs Virtual Workshops <https://jacobsinstitute.berkeley.edu/workshops/>, mostly on design software tutorials, but also includes mold making and T-shirt design demonstrations. We have also increased our Virtual Office Hours <https://jacobsinstitute.berkeley.edu/our-space/design-specialists/> with our design team to meet demand.

We developed the Jacobs Project Support system that allows students, faculty, and researchers to submit part files, receive updates on projects, including quotes and project manager communications, through an automated system.

For more information, please visit our website. <https://jacobsinstitute.berkeley.edu/news/covid-19-maker-pass-updates/>
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING STUDENT & INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SHOPS:
Currently, the Mechanical Engineer Student Access Machine Shop and Mechanical Instructional Support shops are not open for in-person access. The technical staff has been approved to return to campus and currently accepting work order requests.

Here is a partial list of services we provide:
- Laser Cutting
- 3D Printing
- Manual Machining (Lathe, Mill, Drill Press, Etc.)
- CNC Machining (Lathe and Mill)
- Water Jet Cutting
- Sheet Metal Fabrication
- 3D Scanning

In addition, the Mechanical Engineering technical staff has developed and produced several undergraduate “hands on” instructional laboratory videos, regularly participates in Zoom virtual Laboratory technical Q&A sessions and hosts designed machining advice virtual office hours.

The technical staff has also assembled and shipped out over 275 instructional laboratory component kits in support of three Mechanical Engineering required undergraduate courses for the Fall 2020 semester. Further information regarding Mechanical Engineering shops can be found at: https://me.berkeley.edu/resources/student-machine-shop/covid-19-updates/

CED FABRICATION SHOP & DIGITAL FABRICATION LAB:
The Fabrication Shop is CLOSED until further notice. Remote consultation is available by appointment.

The Digital Fabrication Lab is offering Covid-19 Modified Remote Services for the Fall 2020 semester: 3D Printing, Laser and Zund cutting and 3D scanning are available by reservation. Staff will produce requested jobs and deliver output to lockers in the shopyard. Output lockers are secured by combinations emailed to students when their job is complete.

Materials Store purchases associated with DFL output services may be arranged. Both remote services and consultations can be reserved up to one day in advance at <https://cadcam.ced.berkeley.edu/scheduleDFLFAB/Web/>
GRANTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FUND

The STF Referendum sunsets in Spring 2021. This means that, unless the STF is renewed, the Fund’s staff and Committee will not be present to steward the Fund, support, and oversee new project grants made in the 2020-2021 academic year. This duty would likely fall to the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Student Service Fees.

ISSUES UNDER CONSIDERATION:

The STF committed about $1M in relief to support critical student technology needs associated with COVID-19. This substantially reduced the funds available to expend in 2020-2021. Changes in 2020-2021 enrollment, which, in turn, changes the STF’s student fee revenue, may yield a smaller pool of funds better spent bolstering investment in existing grants, rather than soliciting new proposals.

Rather than reviewing new grant applications, the STF Committee may wish to focus on assessing the Fund’s efficacy to date, supporting its existing 400+ grantees, who are working hard to realize their goals despite COVID-19, and playing a lead in the campus conversation on how to best meet students’ technology needs long-term.

COVID 19 TECHNOLOGY ACCESS PROGRAM

In Spring 2020, working in collaboration with the Chief Technology Officer and other campus partners, the Student Technology Fund mobilized the Tech Access Program as a short-term emergency response to students’ need for laptops and Wi-Fi hotspots during COVID-19. The program provided 470 laptops and 200 hotspots to students, mostly by mail, as a free loan.

In the 2020-2021 academic year, the Office of the CIO and the Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education are sponsoring the Student Technology Equity Program (STEP).

APPLY FOR THE STF TECHNOLOGY EQUITY PROGRAM (STEP) HERE:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScQWuYc09t3PwZgCzmP-RBuuxaQMQz-5GUas4nHweBvvOtHiAw/viewform

Campus Budget Updates

In her email to the campus community on August 26th, Chancellor Carol Christ outlined the budget status:

“The impact of the pandemic on campus finances amounts to $340 million, as a result of reduced revenues and increased costs. We are fortunate that we have been able to mitigate that impact to some extent, but the campus is still facing an estimated shortfall for fiscal year 2021 that could range from $65 million to $200 million, depending on our final enrollment numbers, as well as federal and state funding. We expect to have greater clarity in early October.”

The campus has outlined mitigation and reduction measures including:

- Implementing a hiring freeze; and
- Implementing a freeze on merit and cost-of-living increases for staff and faculty, respectively
- A retirement incentive program for faculty
- Voluntary Separation Program for Staff (with incentives based on years of service)
- Temporary work reassignment
- Temporary Layoffs (while maintaining benefits)
- Temporary and permanent reductions in time (benefits remain intact if you are over 50% time)
- Voluntary salary reductions.

“We are undergoing a triple crisis: the crisis of the pandemic, the financial crisis it has set off and the urgent crisis of social justice and systemic racism.”

- Chancellor Christ on August 3rd, in the Campus Conversations-Campus Budget update.

To view the Campus conversations, visit:

https://news.berkeley.edu/2020/08/03/uc-berkeley-faces-a-budget-crisis-like-no-other/

FEEDBACK WANTED! Please share any issues you or your operation are facing and also if you have ideas or requests of topics you’d like to see the CSSC address.

ACCESS THE SURVEY FORM HERE:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSetGdhXDkqNWhboMPltSOSyhdD0JKcglX2a899ytKOJ5oCMwhQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0