Welcome and Opening Remarks – Mark Button, Dean

Welcome everyone to the student town hall. We are so pleased that you could join us today. It is also great to see so many of our members of our college on this call today.

My name is Mark Button. I'm the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and I really want to welcome you to this town hall for all students. For new students, welcome to the College of Arts and Sciences. We're so pleased to have you joining us this year.

To our seniors on the call today - we're so excited for you and we are really dedicated to doing everything we can to make sure you have a great year while making sure that you're safe and healthy in your experience on our campus.

For everyone really on this call today, it is vitally important to all of us in the college that you have a productive and rewarding semester and one that will continue to contribute to your personal long-term goals. All of us on this call are committed to doing everything we can to help you pursue and to complete your college degree.

Despite the many unique challenges that we're dealing with right now due to COVID-19, I just wanted to say that at the very outset I am just so pleased that you could join us for this today, and we have a lot of great people on this call and we think we can answer a lot of the questions that have been submitted to us. And so we're happy to have this opportunity.

Just a few quick things before we get too far into it.

We've received a lot of questions. And we're going to sort of weave our answers into those questions as we go along here today. I'm going to be helped in all of that by Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education June Griffin and our Senior Director of Advising and Students Success, Christina Fielder.

If you have other questions that we don't get to, you'll be able to use the chat function to submit a question that will then be read to us. Or if you like, you can also use the raise the hand function on the Zoom bar and we will unmute you so you can you can speak to the larger group. If there are individual questions that you just feel more comfortable getting answers to privately feel free to email Christina Fielder, June Griffin, or myself anytime and we will we will get you the answers.

I just want to say that our faculty and our staff are so excited to connect and to engage with you. And we've been actively preparing, for a while now, for a very unique fall semester but underlying it all is our commitment to be engaged with you, to take part in the classes and the labs and all the activities that I
know are so meaningful to all of us. As we do that of course, your health and safety is of paramount concern and multiple steps have been taken to prepare for a safe fall semester. We are utilizing a variety of flexible approaches to our teaching and learning this semester and you will be hearing about different elements and different ways in which your classes are going to look this fall here in just a moment.

I wanted to talk more broadly about some of the other things that are happening on campus to help ensure that we all have a safe and healthy semester. An important part of keeping us all healthy is the use of face coverings. All members of our campus community are expected to wear a face covering when indoors and when social distancing cannot be observed outdoors. Every student will be receiving two cloth facial coverings through University Housing, fraternities and sororities, or if you're living off campus you'll be able to pick up masks at the Nebraska Union, Campus Recreation Center, and the Wellness Center. And you can do that now through the end of the month.

I also hope that you'll all join me in taking the Cornhusker Commitment and acknowledge that we all have a part to play in keeping ourselves well and protecting each other. This of course includes wearing our masks and practicing social distancing, washing hands regularly, and self-monitoring for symptoms. If we are not feeling well, staying home and away from others. I encourage all of you to download the one check COVID 19 screening app to self-monitor for symptoms today if you haven't done so already. We are happy to send you a link if you need more information.

In the classrooms, labs, and other campus spaces, our instructors will be responsible for making sure that everyone complies with the face covering policy. And in most cases, I trust that this will just simply be a matter of reminding someone of our university policy and of the things we all must do to help keep each other safe. But I'll just note here briefly that refusing to wear a mask is a violation of the UNL Student Code of Conduct and will be subject to student discipline.

There is a variety of other things that we are doing to make sure that we are having the safest fall semester we can. A big part of it is about reducing the density in our classrooms and in our offices, nearly all classrooms and campus spaces offices will have a 70% reduction in capacity to allow us to maintain the recommended six feet of social distancing as you go into classrooms spaces. This fall classroom seating will be arranged and marked with decals or zip ties to maintain the physical distancing that's recommended.

Other steps to promote health and safety include a lot of signage in our buildings to help maintain traffic flow in a way that will support physical distancing. Something you won't necessarily see is increased air circulation, but you'll experience increased air circulation and enhanced filtration in campus buildings.

You will see a lot of enhanced sanitation and classroom cleaning. You'll see hand sanitizer dispensers scattered across campus and all of these things and other things I could mention are all a part of this kind of overall layered approach to maximizing people safety.

Another thing that's important for you to know about is, is the testing that's going to be available on campus. UNL is providing free testing on campus through a partnership with Test Nebraska and that location was just announced a few hours ago. That testing location will be at 17th and R and open on weekdays from 3 to 6pm. You can use an online portal through the university's main COVID page to make an appointment for testing. And you can start doing that today.
Testing also remains available through the University Health Center. So there's a couple of options. And then of course there's also testing opportunities in the community as well. But as a student, you have testing free and available to you right on campus. We understand that results of those tests would be expected within 72 hours and further directions will be provided to those who are tested once the results are known and positive tests would be forwarded to the Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department to engage in the contact tracing. That's an important part about keeping everyone safe. So that's just a little bit about the kind of testing and the contact tracing that the university is engaging in with the Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department.

I also want to mention that the university is in constant coordination with the health department on local conditions and there are multifaceted plans for reducing the risk for COVID 19 that are constantly being reviewed. Our current plans would change if the science and the advice of health experts and officials recommended such a change and as a university and a college we are prepared to adapt to the advice of health experts if needed. We learned a lot from our experience this spring. And we've been preparing for a whole host of contingencies over the summer. I just want to tell you that I have great confidence in our faculty and our staff to be able to respond, whatever the circumstances might look like, so that we maintain our focus on student success and your degree completion goals.

I want to just end my brief remarks here at the outset, by saying that we know that many students and perhaps some of you on this call are facing some unexpected financial hardships due to the economic consequences of the Global Health pandemic. I just want to make sure that you all know that the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid is available to support you and your families and will make every effort to mitigate financial burdens created by this extraordinary situation that we're in. So if you have incurred, or will incur, additional expenses or severe financial hardship, please contact the Husker Hub to request a financial aid review and see if additional forms of support can be provided to you.

And I'm also very pleased to say that we in the college have established a new fund called CAS Care that will provide eligible students with access to emergency funds to help support your degree completion. We will be providing information about how to apply for those funds through our college website very soon. So I want to encourage you to take advantage of that and you'll be getting more information about that again here in not too long.

Again, I just want to say thank you for being a part of this town hall, welcome to all of you as well welcome back for the students who are returning to us. We look forward to engaging with you. And now let me turn it over to our Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education June Griffin.

June Griffin, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education

Hello everyone, it's really nice to see you here after spending this summer really working hard with faculty and staff to get ready for your turn. It's exciting to be so close to the beginning. I'm going to be talking about the academic calendar, about classes this fall, and some of the academic resources and how you can access them. I will highlight some general information that's going to be important for everyone to know and let you know how you can go to find information specific about your classes.

I'm going to give you some examples of the way a few courses in the college will run and then share how you can access these academic resources. So I kind of have a lot to cover. I'm going to go pretty quickly and then I'll be followed by Christina Fielder or who will tell you more about academic advising and career coaching in the college.
We'll start off with the academic calendar, as you all, I hope, know classes begin Monday and we're really excited for it this year. This first week will be remote and asynchronous, which means that you should go into your course canvas sites first thing Monday morning and check them out. And what you should expect is to find this information about how each of your courses will run. You'll probably have an introduction from your faculty member telling you about themselves, giving you the syllabus. And you'll probably have a number of assignments that you'll need to complete. It may be watching lectures, it may be doing some reading, it might be some problem solving, or written work and you might be asked to introduce yourself in a discussion board, but you should go ahead and get in there right away and lay out the work you need to do for the week to orient yourself to each of your courses and you should probably go ahead and however you plan, if you keep a planner or a calendar, but go ahead and start entering all the information into however you manage your time because the semester with the calendar change is going to have the same amount of instructional time but because we'll be going straight through there'll be no scheduled breaks until finals begin on Saturday, November 21 and finals will be Saturday, November 21 through Wednesday, November 25. But there'll be no scheduled breaks. Often we have Labor Day and fall break but this year we're going to be going straight through. So you'll have the same amount of instructional time but without those breaks. You want to make sure that you're keeping up and keeping track of your courses well this year.

Starting Monday, August 24 your in person classes will start meeting in person. And you should also note that some online courses might be meeting synchronously, or might have some synchronous meetings, so you should check that. The way that you'll know whether one of your courses is in person or online is by looking in your in MyRed at your schedule. If your course has a room assigned. It's going to be meeting in person at least some of the time as the Dean has noted. Some of the same health and safety measures, we've taken is that we are making sure that in the classrooms were keeping six feet distance from each other. So there'll be fewer seats available in each class. And that means that for some of your classes, you very likely should expect not to be able to come to class each class meeting. So you'll want to look at your each of your courses in Canvas to see what your meeting schedule will be, what days you should be coming in and what days you should be connecting to your class remotely, how what you do on days that your remote will really vary by class.

But in general, you should expect that in in person class you'll be coming, maybe once a week, maybe a little less frequently in some classes, you might even be able to come every class. So this summer we've worked pretty hard to try to find the largest space available for each class. So that means that some classes can meet in half the classes in a few classes, we've been able to get a classroom big enough for the whole class to me in every class period. But you should expect that in most of your classes, it will be a mix. And again, your faculty will kind of lay out what your meeting expectations will be and what to expect from your fall classes. If you're returning students and you were here last spring, you know we pivoted really fast in the spring to remote learning and that and we know we've heard from a lot of students that you found the shift challenging. We've heard from faculty that they did as well.

We all learned a lot about how things work and what works well and also some things that didn't work so well that we could do better and at the end of the spring term a core group of faculty called the CAS Teaching Academy Fellows began meeting frequently to start planning a broad approach to classes for the fall and they laid out a lot of really flexible models that faculty can use and from that faculty started their own planning.
Many of them participated in some of the many workshops that the Center for Transformative Teaching here on campus have offered and they did a lot to kind of strengthen their skills with technology to think about how to adapt some of their standard approaches to this new environment that's going to be a bit different. So I want to give you examples from two different departments. One is for math and one is for modern languages to give you a sense of some of the things that that we have planned. So in the math department throughout the summer, faculty have been working together to produce countless videos of teaching math concepts in Math 100, which is intermediate algebra and Math 101, which is college algebra, they have created hundreds of videos preparing course content for students. Now in some of these classes what they what they will have you do is to watch the videos ahead of class and then when you come into class, and those classes meet three times a week, you'll come into class one day a week and then you'll zoom in two days a week. And class will begin with the instructor asking what kinds of questions you have from the videos and then they'll move into problem solving. And those in the classroom will work with the instructor. They're kind of answering questions as you work and solve problems. Those of you who are remote will be broken down into smaller groups with a learning assistant there to help you out. And so you'll spend the bulk of the class practicing problems and solving problems, based on the lecture. And then at the end of class, they'll come back together and the instructor will be able to answer questions that have arisen during, during the class period, so that's what a lot of what you can expect in some of the math courses. Some of the other math courses, they'll have these videos there as additional resources for you and then they'll still be doing some lectures in in class and recording them yet again for people who are remote and making them available for those who are remote. The other thing that you should know is that everyone will be having office hours as usual. Someone had asked about office hours and I think you can expect that the majority of faculty will be offering their office hours through zoom and by phone calls. So it's unlikely that you'll be able to go in and see a faculty member in their office, although some faculty prefer that and have that available, but I think most office hours will be by zoom. And again, you'll find information about how to do that, how to connect.

But in all of your classes, you should definitely expect that faculty will be sharing the resources that you can use and telling you where you can go for extra help, and what kinds of resources are most applicable for that discipline. So someone had asked about some sites that are kind of called homework help sites like Chegg and we really discourage the use of those as they are often involved in academic integrity violations and we firmly encourage you to definitely go to the resources that your faculty have identified as useful and helpful to you. And if you ever have any questions or if you're not sure where you should go, you should ask. You should advocate for yourself and say, where should I go for help and they will, and they will provide that.

I want to tell you a little bit about modern languages. Our Department of Modern Languages offers a number of different courses in a number of different languages and each of those units and worked together this summer to develop a really strong set of principles for their courses. They were incredibly innovative and they really wanted to make sure that students have really ample opportunities to practice learning and speaking language. And one of the things that's really important to them across the board is making sure that students in those classes have opportunities to speak with one another and to speak with the instructor, so, rest assured that no matter how you're accessing your language classes, there will be a lot of opportunities and a high expectation that you'll be deeply engaged in those courses. They were really innovative in their approach and creative and they have a lot of fun things planned. So I think you'll find these courses are really exciting.
There have been a lot of different questions about lab courses in the college. Their approaches are incredibly different. So, for example, many of our chemistry classes have installed Plexiglas partitions across all of the stations so that in each of the lab sessions all students who are assigned to the course can attend all of those classes and can come in and do their labs. For each of the labs in physics, for example, what they had decided to do is to create videos to give students the kind of debrief and to prepare students to come in and do those labs ahead so you will watch the video before you go to lab. Instead of having a three hour block for your lab you'd have an hour and a half in which to conduct the experiment, gather the data and then leave to go write up the lab report. So rather than doing all of that in the lab session, you'd have half the time, but you'd have the materials ahead, and then another group would come in. So that's how they are achieving the identification in the classrooms and other classes. Some of the lab classes students can expect to be able to come to the labs every other lab, but they have kits that allow you to do some of those labs ahead in your in your own homes or in your dorm rooms, wherever you are. So they'll have materials for you to go do that separately. So it really varies, but there's been a lot of time and energy and attention to make sure that these lab components are effective and ready for you.

Now I want to just give you just a little bit more information about academic resources, The Writing Center the Math Resource Center and the Chemistry Center are all available and ready for you all throughout the term these services will be remote and so I'm going to put in the chat some information about how about how to access them. So I really want to encourage you to reach out to those resources early and often. They're there, and they're free. And they're really, really quite helpful.

There's one more resource. I want to make sure you're aware of the Center for Academic Success and Transition. They offer workshops and these will be in person on Tuesdays at 4pm and Wednesdays at 5pm and I will include in the chat links to their workshop offerings.

So that is everything that I wanted to present. I'm going to turn things over now to Christina Fielder to tell you a bit more about some of the things that are available for you.

Christina Fielder, Senior Director of Advising and Student Success

Hi everybody I'm Christina Fielder, I'm Senior Director of Advising and Student Success for the college and my role here in the college is to lead a really great team of student success professionals and that's your academic advisors and your career coaches.

If you are a new student, and I know that there were several brand new students that signed up for this call today, you had a chance to hear from that that team and certainly had a chance to at least meet with one of them pretty in depth for quite some time for new student enrollment and so that relationship that you started this summer will continue as you head on through and arrive here for fall. Whether you're new, or a returning student, you know those academic advisors and career coaches and they're super excited to have you here and they are really eager to help and to be part of your overall success at Nebraska and in the College of Arts and Sciences, and that includes not only academic things, but it also includes personal kinds of challenges and triumphs that you might be having but also helping you think a little bit about professional plans that you might have for after graduation. And how to kind of gear up and prepare for all of those things. And so they can help you with so many things, they're experts in in a lot of academic policies and processes, how to gain experience, how to explore careers, how to write a resume. I could go on and on with the things, but they are your experts or your point person for. There are other things that they may not be the expert on and they are a team that is quick
to tell you when they're not the expert and what they'll do in that moment is let you know exactly who is and they'll oftentimes make a connection for you with that other campus partner across our campus. We know the folks in all of the offices around campus, really, really well. And we want to make sure that you're accessing the right person at the right time.

Whether that's a faculty member or accessing the Center for Academic Success and Transition that June just mentioned, one of the resource centers. Health Center, CAPS, you know, any of those resources. We want to make sure you're connected in the right moments. And that's a really big part of what our academic advisors and career coaches are here to do. While not all of that team is located in our Academic and Career Advising Center, I do want to mention that space. And that's 107 Oldfather Hall. The Academic and Career Advising Center is really the hub for undergraduate students in the College of Arts and Sciences and it's a place that you can go for quick questions. It's often the place that you go when you need college approval for a late add or some other kind of a form. It's where you go to change majors and minors, those kinds of things. And that center will be open daily from nine to four, we will have some guides on the floor that kind of help us keep a limit on how many students are in the lobby at a time and some signage around so please do take a look at that. If you're stopping in to visit with us, but do know that that center is open for you as a hub and a place where you can get your questions answered. That said, if you're hesitant to come into the office. You can email us anytime and that's casadvising@unl.edu that's going to take you right to the front desk team, Andrea and Rebecca are great administrative staff who man the front of the academic and career Advising Center, and they are monitoring that email regularly and if you reach out to us via email they'll make sure that you get a response or connect you with somebody on that same day. So don't hesitate to reach out, either stopping in or emailing us with any questions that you have and we'll kind of talk you through it.

Let me talk a little bit about what the academic advisors and career coaches are going to be doing in terms of meeting with you. They want to meet with you every semester that you're here and this semester is no different. And I would argue that this semester, in particular, it's probably more important than ever to stay connected and see those folks and so when they when they meet with you they want to be able to connect. They want to share information. And often, in order to do that, well, we need to be kind of close in proximity. And what we realized quickly this summer is that many of our offices really are not terribly conducive to social distancing and by having you in person in those offices we really couldn't give you the same level of service that frankly we can via zoom and so while some of our academic advisors and career coaches will be working from home and others will be working from campus those one on one meetings will be held via zoom and that gives us the opportunity to see your face and for you to see our faces and gives us the opportunity to share a screen, look at your degree audit together, look over your resume and give you some feedback. And it's actually going to be a much better way to serve you this semester, than I think that it would be having you come in in person and social distancing with masks for that particular part of your experience here. So know that they're available to you by appointment on our website. We've put quite a few details about how to connect with that team and we've included some direct links that will take you right to their calendars in MyPlan, just click on it and it takes you right to the available times that you can sign up for an appointment, either with your academic advisor or one of our career coaches.

Also on the website you're going to see that there's some information about drop in advising career coaching and we are certainly happy to see students kind of quick question drop ins and advisors are keeping sort of different schedules throughout the week when they'll be available for those quick question drop in sessions. Again, those are short, quick question. No more than 15 minutes or so. And if you feel like you need more than that an appointment is always going to be the best way to connect
with these folks, but we'll have that drop in available for you. It'll happen daily from 10 - 12 and 1-3 and your advisor may not be in on every single day. But we're posting the calendar and the schedule for who's doing drop ins on what day what shift and so you can see that on the website as well. And I think we've got some links, not only to our email but also to that drop in advising schedule and, you know, the main information for the Academic and Career Advising Center and team that is part of that.

Let me turn briefly to the fall mini session. I know we had a lot of questions about that fall mini session and what that is and June talked about the academic calendar and sort of how that's changing this particular semester.

If we're talking about the regular fall semester, we're looking at that 15 week timeframe that starts on August 17th and ends the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. That is the regular fall session. And it's important to kind of know the distinction between those two things.

Right after that session is finished, the very next week we'll start a fall mini session and that's new. It's something we've never done before. But it's kind of exciting and a new opportunity to try some things that otherwise we might not have done. And so to give you a little bit more information about that fall mini session I do want to make sure it's clear to students that it's not just a tag on to that regular session if we're talking about a need to be full time. For example, there are lots of reasons that students need to keep full time status, sometimes it's scholarship related, sometimes it's international student related, sometimes it is just a variety of things. So if you're thinking about needing to be full time and does that really count just at 15 weeks or can I be full time across the whole term, it's important to note that being full time is that 15 week regular session. If you need to be full time, you need to be full time in that session and that affects things like financial aid and those sorts of things.

The three week mini session that will happen after that is really kind of a bonus. Think of it as a bonus and sort of extra to that regular session. And we've had questions from students about what will be offered in that mini session and how they can you know kind of leverage that in terms of what will be offered. It's going to be a limited set of offerings and keep in mind that you know what's offered in that mini session, it will be fully online and asynchronous and we've thrown that term around a little bit synchronous, asynchronous. I want to really quickly make sure everybody knows kind of what that means. When we're talking about asynchronous, we're talking about that there's not a need for you to be somewhere in a particular time to connect with others. You're doing it at your own pace on your own time. That's asynchronous and many of the courses this fall, even if they are online, they may have synchronous components and that synchronous piece is the need to be available to meet with your faculty member or other students at a particular time. So that's what we're talking about when we say synchronous versus asynchronous. The fall mini session will be fully asynchronous and fully, fully online. Most of what will be offered in that session will be some special topics courses, one to two credit hours, but it will not likely be a way for you to pick up a requirement like ACE or CDR or a major, minor course. It's simply won't be used in that way. And those are not the kinds of offerings that you'll see for the mini session. So keep that in mind as you're finalizing your regular fall classes and your selections for the fall, really think about this 15 weeks as the regular session and be planning with your advisor. What you want to take during that 15 weeks if you choose to be part of that three week mini session, know that those courses are going to be available and you can start enrolling for them roughly around August 31 and so you'll be hearing from your advisor and others about that session. And when you can take a look and see the offerings to courses that I will just plug shamelessly in this moment because we have a couple of other folks around that are involved in that we are offering a couple of courses from the college in that mini session and both of them are zero credit our courses and the most important thing
to know about that is that means they're free. They don't cost anything. And the first one is to plan your
degree and it is a great course for brand new, first semester students who really want to get a jump start
on that four year plan and you will leave that course with that four year plan, we know that four year
plans change every single semester, and that's why you meet with your advisor every semester to
review that plan and adjust as you discover new things and go off in new directions, but that plan your
degree course will be available to you to get that first degree plan in place. And we'll also spend some
time reflecting on how the regular session went, if there are strategies and tactics that you use that
were particularly successful or some areas where maybe you need to step it up or do things a little bit
differently will reflect on some of those things as well as thinking ahead to planning more than just your
academic classes as part of your degree, but some really important experiences like internships and
research, Education Abroad where those might fall within your degree plan and how you might get
positioned to take advantage of those kinds of transformative learning experiences that we know are
critical in the College of Arts and Sciences and really a part of what we do here for all students.

The second course I will mention is called it's the CAS Career Launcher and this is a more appropriate
course for students who are in their second year or higher and rather than me kind of describing that
really quickly I'm going to turn to Meagan Savage, who is one of our career coaches, Megan, would you
unmute quickly and just share briefly what that course is about

Meagan Savage:
Yeah, so it basically just provides a lot of structure to help you move forward toward your career goals.
So no matter where you feel like you are, maybe you are a second year student and you love your major
but don't know what comes next for you or like where it can take you, or maybe you're about to
graduate and you need a little help and guidance, you will work really closely with a career coach to help
set and refine professional goals that you can work toward during that three week session. And so we
will be basically your accountability partners providing not just accountability, but resources and
feedback that you need in order to keep moving forward. So it's just really a great way to use that little
bit of extra time at the end of the semester and get a little bit of focus during that time on kind of
identifying your next steps in your overall professional development.

Christina Fielder:
Thanks Meagan, either one of those courses, as I said, are really, really helpful and things that we want
you to be doing anyway. And know that if you choose to sign up for those courses, that they will provide
great structure and accountability of those three weeks which will be really helpful. If you are still
interested in doing that, but you don't want to sign up for the mini session. Those are the kinds of things
that you'll do with your academic advisor or with our career coaches anytime you like, so we can do that
on your timeline without being part of those courses. It's the same things that we would do with you
individually and so don't hesitate to ask for those same things from your academic advisor, the career
coaches individually as you meet with them.

The last thing I just want to mention are just a few tips for success as I see them. And as I think our
advisors and coaches would share, one is really easy and that is checking your Husker email daily. This is
really important and probably more important than ever. You have your Husker email and that is
something that's available to you as a student. And it really is the primary way that the university does
business and so we are reaching out to you via that Husker email. It's not all system messages and things
like that, there are real people trying to reach you through that email and we want to help you and
provide you with not only resources, but prompt you when there's something that maybe you need to
take care of, or doing along the way to keep you moving forward and progressing. So check that Husker
email every single day. You'll be hearing potentially from faculty members, certainly from university staff and a variety of different offices and it's just critical to reach out to people and ask for help when you need it. That's true of your faculty that's true of your academic advisors, the career coaches and really staff across the university. You know, don't let a question that you have go unanswered, advocate for yourself. Ask that question, reach out and keep moving forward. And so that's really important, and we want to hear from you. If you have that opportunity to have those in person kinds of experiences within your classes, take advantage of them. Those are going to be really special times in your classes to use those in person opportunities. And then stay really current when you're working remotely, or if you're fully online stay up to date, stay current, don't fall behind. And if you can, especially in those asynchronous online courses, you know work ahead when you're able and you have that time available to you. It's great to do that. June mentioned the variety of resources on our campus and I want to encourage you to think about using resources before you ever need them. Getting ahead in chemistry and in math, thinking about your study skills and those kinds of things, the workshops from the Center for Academic Success and Transition, there are great workshops about test taking, note taking, those kinds of strategies and the best time to gather that information is before you really need it so you have it incorporated into what you’re doing and grow from where you are rather than using that as a response to struggle. It's much better to stay up to date on that, look for opportunities to connect with one another, whether that’s in residence halls, or friends personally in and out of class, those sorts of things, of course, using you know, safe practices and social distancing. And in that mask, but look for those opportunities to connect one on one with people. You know, above all, keep planning for your success, you know, this is certainly a hard moment. And it's a different moment and it will look really different if you are returning to us. It's going to look different than what you've experienced in the past. If you’re brand new to us, it’s going to look different than what you’ll encounter hopefully in the future, while you’re here, but keep planning for your success. Don’t put off thinking about what am I going to do an internship. What am I going to study abroad? What am I thinking about research, those kinds of things? Keep planning for the future and use those resources around you that will help you get there.

And then finally, just to close, I would say, be patient. Be kind to yourself and to others. I think that gets you a long way. I’m a big proponent of saying hello to people saying please saying thank you and just again being kind to yourself, but also to others.

And I'm going to stop there. And I know that there might be some questions that are that are coming and don't hesitate to put those in chat if you have additional ones.

Mark Button:
We have some time reserved for additional questions and concerns that you might have. If you have questions that we haven't addressed please submit them through the chat function or if you want to use the raise the hand function, we will also just call on you so you can speak to the larger group.

Amanda Metcalf:
I do have a few questions that I'll start reading, so I'm not sure who wants to take them, but go ahead and jump in when you feel it's appropriate for you.

The first one is, what should I do if I want to drop out of a class?

Christina Fielder:
Tony Lazarowicz, our Associate Director of Academic Advising will field this one.
Tony Lazarowicz:
I would tell you in any moment that it's probably best to consult with your academic advisor before making adjustments to your schedule if you're looking at changing classes all together versus changing the course time knowing that you may be changing and adjusting what your timeline could be for graduation by making a change to your four year plan overall, so it's always best to consult your advisor, be it in a meeting or a quick email just to confirm that the action you're about to take is going to make sense for your overall goals.

Amanda Metcalf:
Where can you find what books you need for your classes?

Tony Lazarowicz:
There are a couple ways that you can, absolutely, one is on MyRed when you log in. In fact I will share my screen real quick just to give you a quick visual from the students perspective and then I'll get out. If you're on the enrollment tab one of the boxes there you'll see is textbook online ordering. All you need to do is click there. The benefit of going in through MyRed is that it will automatically pull your schedule that you're already enrolled in. So you don't have to type in all the classes you're taking. So MyRed enrollment textbook online ordering

Amanda Metcalf:
How does Chegg affect the academic dishonesty policy?

June Griffin:
Keep in mind is that in any kind of assessment situation whether it's an assignment that you complete for your class at any time or an examination, whether it's in person or remote you should follow whatever research sources and materials that your instructor has said are appropriate to use for completing that assignment or exam. And if you use other sources that are not permitted then you could be violating the academic integrity policy and so, you know Chegg is a site where people can post questions and problems and get solutions and some students use that as a study site, but sometimes students use that as the site for finding solutions to exam questions and that is a violation of the academic integrity policy and if your instructor realizes that you've used that site, then they can proceed with a charge against you for it. And you could fail the exam or fail the course or for cheating.

And so it is a pretty serious thing to use inappropriate sites like that, or to cheat on exams or to plagiarize on written assignments. And so I think the thing to remember is to try to give yourself time to plan to study, to write, to complete your assignments and ask for help if you're not sure what you need to do or what you can use because your faculty will tell you that they want to make sure that you have what you need to do things appropriately.

Amanda Metcalf:
How do I make a better resume?

Meagan Savage:
Well, I would love my own session about how to make about a resume but my best recommendation is to definitely just connect with career coaches. We are so happy to be with you. We are still seeing students over the summer and you can email us at cascareers@unl.edu just to get started. We have links on our website for to schedule with us directly on MyPlan and what we can do if you email us your resume ahead of time and say, I would like to set up an appointment to review this we can review it on
our own, and then discuss our feedback with you kind of step by step and then also provide you some university resources that we frequently use with students as well just to set the expectations for what a resume looks like at this point in your career.

You know you if you Google it, you're going to see 1,000 different examples of a resume. Yours is going to take so many different forms over time and you will flip from one way in high school if you had to do it, and one in college. There are different kinds of guidelines and expectations and then when you've been graduated for 10 years and you're really settled in your career, your resume will look super different then as well. So the best way to get started with all that it's just to reach out to us at cascareers@unl.edu.

Amanda Metcalf:
We've got a question about the CAS emergency fund, this student asked if international students are eligible for the new CAS emergency fund.

Mark Button:
They are indeed and we will be providing the guidelines and the process for applying very soon. We're working on that now, but we want this to be available to all students. So yes, the answer is yes. We're excited to be able to offer that

Amanda Metcalf:
Are there any events hosted by the College during this school year?

Mark Button:
Good question. Well yes, we think so, but they're going to look a little different. So in a college like this we host lots of events, educational events, speaking events. But, you know, given all of the things that I've just described at the beginning of this session regarding physical distancing and the priority of keeping people safe we just know that those events are going to look quite a bit different. So you know, Saturday, for example, there's a very big event. It's graduation. So that's going to be conducted through a video format and we have we have things like student award celebrations and faculty awards and those are very important. We cannot let go of those things, but they're going to, for the time being, they're just going to look a little bit differently. So yeah, we'll be hearing about events, but hopefully you'll be patient and accept that until things change we just have to do things a little bit differently.

June Griffin:
Tony will tell you a little bit about an upcoming event happening real soon.

Tony Lazarowicz:
With any of the events that we do in person, we are assessing the risk and we're going through a series of a lot of questions to identify how to mitigate those risks and so we recognize when there's a larger scale event and with the College of Arts and Sciences being one of the largest colleges on campus, we need to really think about that very strategically. We are going to be hosting the college kickoff event next Thursday the 20th and while we're still waiting for final approval, we believe we've put the kind of standards in place that will ensure that we're going to provide a safe event for you to connect with advisors and career coaches. That will be happening from 1am1-4pm right outside of Oldfather Hall and it will be an opportunity for you to get your new College of Arts and Sciences t-shirt for those incoming new students. And so we encourage you to stop by between classes. We will get you a t-shirt and make sure you have a chance to know who your advisor is. And so many of you haven't had an opportunity to
meet with an advisor face to face in person. So we'll be getting an email out as soon as we have the final details and approval for that.

**Amanda Metcalf:**
There is a question about labs. June, I think you talked a little bit about that, but if anybody has anything to add about how labs will function that would be helpful.

**June Griffin:**
I did give examples of three or four different labs, so I think if you have additional questions you can ping me or definitely check your canvas site.

**Mark Button:**
We're trying to continue to provide that really important hands on learning experience of labs and we're trying to do it in a way that's going to be the most safe so each one looks a little bit different.

If we have addressed your questions today, then we are thrilled by that. We know that other things will come up as the semester progresses along, so I just hope that for all the students who are on this call that you see there's a lot of people dedicated to your success who are here to help you. Please never hesitate to reach out to any of us with any questions or concerns you have, we are here for you and we want to help you. We are thrilled to see students coming back to campus, if you are engaging with us remotely, we are also happy to do it that way with you too.

I hope this session has been helpful to you. We wish you all a great semester and academic year.

Looking forward to seeing you in person when it is safe to do so very, very soon. Thank you all for participating today.