

Tuesday

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Stetson University - College of Law

Admitted Students Webinar

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[Captioner standing by]

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: We wanted to get together so we can chat with you regarding our plans for the call and answer your questions. First and foremost, always to answer your questions.

There are a few things I'll mention before we open up today. With me today is Associate Dean Jason Bent. He will be one of your support players at the College of Law. We have great faculty and staff as you have already seen from our Admissions Team, so he'll be able to tell you a lot about some of the processes that we do.

But two things I wanted to mention before we go into detail is to really acknowledge that at this moment around our nation we are having a very on-going and important conversation around race and how we live together.

This is not a new conversation, this is part of our history in the United States, but it is a conversation that is progressing quite visibly and has some pains.

So I wanted to highlight for you that at the College of Law we take dialoguing and inclusion seriously. This is part of our central mission and we encapsulate it in crafting everything we do around social justice, including in our programming, in our various guidelines to the community.

We also have strong ethical rules and rules of professionalism. In fact, we at the College of Law have a very early conversation with you when you get here during orientation about cultural competence and our expectation around that and I want to explain to you, we do that and we have a mission of social justice in our central principle of global citizenship.

All of those things are not things we do because we think it's nice to do, we do it because it's a core value, not only of the University, but we think it is a core value of what being an attorney requires.

As an attorney, you will have to represent and be on various sides of multiple issues. And first and foremost, our job as an attorney is to investigate, be critical, study the record, and be able to communicate those things for the benefit of constituencies. And even when you represent your client, the community is always part of your responsibility.

That's why we have such strong professional rules of conduct. And you'll get to learn all about it, but for now, all you need to know is that we are here for you to guide you on how to navigate all of that.

That is literally our job. And it's more of our job in a Law School than it is anywhere else. So I'm sure coming from college you have experienced a lot of turmoil, it is part of the course. This is actually good. When our society

feels that strongly and that passionate to debate actively with one another, it means we have hope. Inertia would be deaf. So we have lots to be hopeful about.

At a Law School, the law being our mission and to the service of society we take that responsibility to guide you through the process of dialoguing, understanding the Constitution, understanding your obligation to one another, to society, and your legal obligations. We take that as part and parcel, just as important, it is just as important to us as educating you on the doctrine and helping you be ready for the Bar and helping you get employment.

So I'm happy to take questions on that. We'll continue to talk about it, I'm sure. And I hope that that was a helpful follow-up to the e-mail I sent earlier last week.

Our second part of this conversation will be around operations for the fall. So I want to mention a few things for you before we open it up to Dean Bent and to your questions.

The first is that we are planning and have all things in place to be back in the fall face-to-face with accommodations for those who need to be remote. Those accommodations, please, if you need them, if you have questions, that's what our whole team, our whole College of Law is here to answer your questions and figure out what is best for you.

Within that construct, of course, we are planning to be face-to-face within health guidelines. So we are following the CDC mandates and the CDC has specific guidance that is directed at Higher Education and Universities and colleges. And we are in lockstep with those. In fact, many of our steps

are evidence in an abundance of caution, rather than staying at the minimum level the CDC requires.

We are also consulting the American college of health associations and they intersect and provide common guidelines. So our commitment to be face-to-face will include safety in the classroom, physical distancing between seats, proper ventilation and our commitment to provide PPEs to every student, and that would include a face mask and we will guide you in on the use of that face mask, you will probably need more than one, but we are committed to give you one. The PPEs will not only be provided to students, but to staff and our faculty.

And we have been fortunate at the College of Law that we were able to move remotely and diminish activity at the College of Law to essential personnel in a way that has maintained the health and safety of our community. So we are very confident within all of the things you cannot control that the College of Law is well prepared with its contagious disease protocol, with its specific health protocol, and with all the measures taking place that by the time you get on campus, we'll be able to direct you to the maintenance of our safety at all times.

Again, I want to reiterate that those who want to dialogue with us about specific conditions and health concerns or concerns about being face-to-face, please reach out to us. In this landscape, this is not about categorical mandates, this landscape requires us to really communicate to one another about what you need. And that's what we are here for.

So if you are feeling a little bit of nervousness or you might be concerned about some point of vulnerability or being -- having

immunodeficiency issues, et cetera, those are all issues that we are here to not only talk to you about, but to figure out a structure that works for you and allows you to minimize your anxiety.

So please, please do that. And I know that Dean Bent will tell you the same and provide you various avenues, additional avenues of support.

We will have a rigorous tracing system for our health protocol, which means that we'll be able to monitor if someone gets sick and the contacts that they've had with individuals, and we'll be able to insulate that cohort group until they are well. We already have a rigorous visitors' protocol that protects the health and safety. And we will really work with you as soon as you can get here to really figure out the pacing of your physical work on campus.

That means that we will have some guidelines for everyone in the community. Likely, we will guide everyone on the best route to get on campus, egress and ingress, that is just the kind of thing that a campus has to do to weather COVID-19. And we'll update you about that.

We have a number of health partners that we are close to that will be able to provide healthcare, et cetera, to you if you have any need.

Regarding the calendar, Dean Bent will talk to you about that. We are considering a potential early start. Nothing jarring, possibly starting on August 8th. We haven't announced that and we might change it, but this is to give you an idea of what an early start might look like.

You know, if you are planning to be here the middle of August, you know, start thinking about possibly you'll be here a week earlier. And we'll update you by the end of the month, by the end of June.

One thing to consider with this early start, what it will do is allow you, if we maintain that plan, to go home or finish all of your obligations with the College of Law before Thanksgiving. And we are doing that with the pretense that we want to minimize any issue that COVID-19 may provide. In November and December, there may be more movement on COVID, so we will release a schedule that speaks to that concern.

Orientation will be impacted and we will provide you more detail.

And you might have questions about what you know about the College of Law, right? We're a warm and fuzzy place. We have a lot of events and we like hugging. [Laughter] So how will that be impacted? How much hugging prevention will there be? I will say I have seen a lot of planning with PPEs and moving our face away when we get more comfortable with that, but what we can say in the meantime is the events scheduled, et cetera, will be at a minimum. Even with PPEs, we have mandates on how much congregation we can do seeing we have to provide for the classes, et cetera.

We are hopeful as students ease, we can provide a protocol for a tailored, very calculated schedule of events. So stay tuned to that.

We understand that the first year is just a special time and I still remember my first year and I always say, some people agree, but some don't, but I think this will happen to you, you will make your best friends during your first year. My best friends are still my friends 20-plus years later. So because of that we are valuing the opportunity to provide you a campus experience to the best possible within this COVID context.

And when COVID goes away, you will really see so much about what we are about.

And lastly, I want to remind you about the pre-law program. And the pre-law program, our title is Intro to Legal Practical Skills -- to Practical Legal Skills. And the deadline to commit to our program is Wednesday. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Admissions Team. Of course, we would love to discuss possibilities that you may be considering. I would encourage you to attend those sessions. We have two amazing Professors, a slew of alumni and a slew of faculty and staff introducing you to the concepts and the requirements of what a law student will have to undergo. And you can't put a price on that. And I'm so happy that we are able to provide it free, assuming your commitment with the deposit.

Any questions on that, please don't hesitate to let us know. You will receive a Certificate of Completion upon completing the program. And the times and dates are Monday through Friday, 12:00 PM-4:00, starting June 19th to July 2nd.

I'll stop there because I'm sure you have questions and I'll turn it over to Dean Bent.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: Thank you, Dean Alexandre. I want to first say, welcome to the Stetson community because ordinarily I would be doing this in front of a large classroom, an auditorium full of you. This is a little different and I would prefer to be in front of a large classroom saying, welcome, and talking about what the importance of joining an academic community is and what the importance of joining Law School is like.

And I hope and anticipate that I will get the opportunity to say that to you and to introduce myself to you in person in orientation, but for now that

will have to do. And I want to give you a hearty Stetson welcome. We are a welcoming place, a warm and fuzzy place. We are here to help you, answer your questions, and provide you with the best educational experience, but also a positive educational experience for you. So it can be a little difficult to convey that through the Internet, but we'll do our best.

I want to preview a little bit about the Fall semester and give you a sense of what that looks like. We are trying to balance a lot of things here. The most important thing is making sure we are maintaining your safety and that is job number one for me and the Registrar and the committee that is looking at schedule. We are fairly far along in that, but we are not quite ready to announce the details of the fall schedule.

I do want to emphasize safety is the top priority, safety of you and safety of the faculty and safety of staff. Absolutely top prior.

So what does that mean? That means we are going to be doing things like spacing you out, putting you in a larger room than we otherwise would. Spacing you at six feet social distancing, or physical distancing, between your classmates. Designing the class start and stop times so they are staggered so everyone is not released at the same time. Those are the sort of things we are doing. Breaking down your cohorts into smaller cohorts so you are not necessarily in there with the same full size first year section you would ordinarily have.

So those are some of the things we are planning on doing. We understand that for the first year it is a special time. The face-to-face part of the first year is important and we want to give you that experience. We want to give you that experience as much as we can.

Having said that, we are also balancing your own personal comfort levels with safety and your own personal medical situations or health situations. So what that means is we will work with you on an individual level to accommodate. We're going to have things like an online-only part of a first year section. For second, we may have an online-only research and writing section so those of you that need to be remote and can't be in-person, we can take care of that situation.

I also want to emphasize that we have a lot of resources available to you and they are already available to you, so there are things -- people you can reach out to, offices you can reach out to that I supervise that are already available to help you. You probably know Karla and Darren pretty well, you have been working with the Admissions Team, but we also have the Student Affairs Office, led by Dr. Hudson. That office covers student organizations, but it also covers wellness and that's a big issue right now.

If you have either mental or physical wellness concerns, we have an office dedicated to that and we can help you with that. They also have a Mental Health Counselor. So those resources are available for you now.

We also have -- I supervise the Registrar's Office, they will be working closely with you on your academic planning and the schedule. You probably don't have any issues to deal with the Registrar's Office right now, but you may in the future. We also have a career development team, it will probably not be the first thing at the top of your priority list, but I want to make sure you are aware of them so you know we have this resource available to you. And we also have the ADA Office, the Accessibility Disability Resources Office, they are part of Student Affairs. So if you are coming in a situation

where you think you may need an accommodation, that would be the office you reach out to.

So those are some of the resources we have available for you.

I also want to emphasize this Introduction to Practical Legal Skills Workshop. Again, Dean Alexandre mentioned that. This gives you an opportunity to meet some of the faculty, meet the alumni and hear their stories. I'll be telling my story. I'm a first generation college student, neither of my parents went to college, let alone Law School, so first generation is a topic I'll be addressing. But you'll hear about the different approaches to law schools, the paths to a legal career and different legal career paths you can take and the importance of structuring your Law School experience and your professional experience through a particular lens. Through a lens that makes sense to you. So that will be a big focus of the Introduction to Practical Legal Skills course that starts on June 19th. That's available for you. If you have any questions about that, Karla in admission can help you out, I can help you out and Dean Alexandre can help you out.

We are working on that and the fall schedule. We understand you have questions and concerns about it, we're going to try to answer as many of those as we can. You should rest assured that safety is our top priority, but also making sure you get a complete, valuable Law School education, one that we can be proud of and you can be proud of when you go out there representing yourself with a Stetson Law degree. You're still going to get that. We're going to make sure you get that.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Thank you. At this point we are happy to open it up for questions. We want to hear from you.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Can you hear me okay?

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Yes.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Okay. So thanks, everyone, for joining this webinar. We are really happy that you were able to take some time to join us today to learn our safety plans for the fall and to learn our academic plans as well.

We do have quite a few questions that have already come in, but I want to encourage you to continue posting those questions as we go through the next 40 minutes.

We want to take as many questions as possible during this time and really appreciate the engagement that you are -- that you are here today and planning to engage with us.

So the first question coming from Salina in Texas, she sends her well wishes and Salina has a few questions that are bundled together related to the testing, screening, sort of the safety protocols that Dean Alexandre mentioned. Her question specifically is, is Stetson foreseeing having the ability to test students on a large-scale for COVID-19? Including those who are not showing symptoms.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Thank you. So this is an issue we've actually been investigating very closely and as we mentioned, we are doing so with the guidance of health agencies. And the CDC and the American Colleges Health Association are both weighed in and their mandate and guidance is that we actually shouldn't test or don't need to test the whole population. What we need to do have are screening measures in place and the ability to test those who evidence symptoms and those who might be sick

or vulnerable populations.

So part of what we are implementing in this reality then is a collaboration between the community on all aspects. So that means individuals have an responsibility to make sure they feel -- they screen themselves, check with the symptoms, we will continue to circulate, and we will have the opportunity to guide anyone who feels that they have -- they don't feel well to a testing site.

But the advice we are getting is it might be counterproductive to implement a schedule where we test every single person.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Thank you.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Anything else?

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: So this next question is from Caroline and Dean Bent, I'll address this question to you. It's related to the early start that both you and Dean Alexandre mentioned. Her question is what is the benefit of starting the fall term earlier?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: Sorry, pressed the wrong button. The main benefit of starting earlier, and only, we are only looking at adjusting the schedule by a week, orientation by a week, first day of classes up by a week and the main benefit is we can get all of the exams done in-person before Thanksgiving. Ordinarily what would happen is your last day of classes would happen just before Thanksgivings and I come back and take your in-person exams. The problem with that is we are dispersing everyone geographically to spend time with their families and risk coming back to campus with infection and taking in-person exams in a classroom who have just done the same thing.

This is probably the option we are learning towards, compress the schedule a little bit, so each class is a little bit longer so we can drop the number of weeks of classes down from 13 weeks of classes to 12 weeks of classes and move up by one week and then we'll be able to get all of the classes in and all of the in-person exams done before Thanksgiving and we think that will be a safety situation based on the guidance we have received.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Yes, and as the Principal, it's not always visible, it's safety first. We are guided by what will work best for you as students and what will allow you to get the maximum educational benefit, while allowing you to get home safely. And by all accounts, I encourage you to consult other schools. We all are matching in lockstep with that. We have found based on health guidelines, mitigating the stress of returning back to campus or the complications of that is the best -- that's the best step to take to make sure you are well and can conduct your studies properly and also remain safe.

Karla.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: So our next question is from Hailey and it's related to the pre-law workshop that will begin June 19th. I can address some of that and then Dean Bent and Dean Alexandre, if you would like to add additional remarks. Her question is specific to whether or not students will be able to see each other, to engage and interact with each other as peers during the online workshop as they would in a normal classroom setting.

And the short answer to that is yes. You will have the opportunity to engage with your classmates, with the presenters, the Professors, and guest

speakers in an online format. The teaching tool we will be using a Blackboard and it does allow you to have a high level of interactive engagement.

Anything else to add to that, Dean Bent or Dean Alexandre?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: I'll just add that the curriculum was designed specifically with that in mind, so there are certain breakout sessions so we can break you into smaller groups to talk about specific things so you have that opportunity to interact with smaller groups of your incoming cohorts.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Absolutely. And your Professors have been dreaming of this day and night, so you have a lot of energy coming your way that will, you know, really go along with you interacting with your peers.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: And it looks like Travis and maybe some others of you have had trouble finding the link to the pre-law workshop, or finding the e-mail that it was in. It looks like Carmen Johnson has actually posted the link there in the question feature for those of you who were looking for it or need to circle back to it, the link is posted there.

But if you have any trouble accessing it from this tool, please just feel free to contact the Admissions Office and we'll get you directed to that registration portal.

The next question is from Tiffany and her question is specific to schedules for first year. So she is asking, how do they get their schedules for the first year?

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Jason?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: Well, so ordinarily we would send you the schedule by e-mail from the Registrar's Office and they would let you know when you are getting -- you know, which section you have been assigned to and what the dates and times are for each class.

This time, I'll just have to say, stay tuned because we -- the Registrar's Office will be in contact with you, but it will be a little different this time because we may be, again, engaging with you on accommodations. So if you are in a situation where you are immunocompromised and you say, I can't come to class in-person, you may be going into our remote only research and writing, for example, so something along those lines. So stay tuned. It will come from the Registrar, stay tuned on that.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Thank you. So this next question relates to cleaning and sanitation efforts. And the question specifically is, how frequently will classrooms be sanitized?

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: So this is a great question. We have a cleaning protocol that we just implemented. Right now you should know that all of our classrooms have been closed for three or four months now and they were deeply sanitized. And we won't open back the classroom until students are back on campus.

And our protocol is a multi-layered, very, very complex sanitation protocol as advised by CDC. And it involves cleaning between classrooms with specific machines that are designed to fight COVID-19. And those machines are being -- we have purchased them specifically for this moment.

In addition to that, we'll have anti-bacterial and a cleaning process where folks will come in the common areas in the classroom to clean

surfaces, et cetera.

So part of our steps in getting ready for the fall will be to educate you and the rest of the community on all of the things that you also will be doing to balance the cleaning so that our work with cleaning is not undone by someone not washing hands, et cetera, et cetera. So we all have a part in the protection against COVID. The College of Law itself is very much on schedule regarding cleaning, Plexiglas, and adequate agents and machines to clean. And we will do it in between classes so there won't be any gathering of germs for a long period of time. But we also will rely on the community to do their part and take the proper precautions, including PPEs, including washing their hands, et cetera.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: So we have a question related to, again, safety measures and screenings. And the question is specifically related to any plan to do temperature checks. You know, the statement here is, while we hope everyone will report when they are not feeling well, some may not, you know, be as vocal about when they are not feeling well and could potentially put others at risk.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: That's a good question.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Yeah.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: That's a great question. We are disseminating a protocol that will encourage your own screening, but also we are aware that not everybody is similarly situated. The trick about COVID-19 is that temperature checks, they don't get you the data that you need. So it would be -- I could easily say we'll check everybody's temperature and though that might give some assurance, but it won't fight COVID-19. It is a

combination of self-checking, including everybody's temperature check, and our screening processes.

So we will commit to communicating that as crisply and often as possible until everybody is educated and have one accord on that. But the reason I'm not promising to temperature check out of the gate is that the symptoms that we disseminate are very long and temperature is a small amount of that and does not appear in everybody. So it would -- might be misleading for me to promise temperature checks as a solve-all for everything.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: I just want to add one other item which is on attendance. I'm the person who administers the College of Law attendance policy. We are trying to remove any incentive to come to campus when you might have symptoms. Right? So students may try because they missed a class before, they don't want to miss another class, come to school even though they have a little cough and may have a slight fever, we're trying to disincentivize that. We are trying to relax the attendance policy and we are waiting on the ADA guidance on what we can do with that.

But essentially, we're going to try to make it so if you have symptoms, we're going to encourage you to stay home, ask you to stay home, and we prefer you not come to campus if you are in doubt and experiencing symptoms. And the class attendance policy will be structured in a way to allow for that to happen so you not coming to class just because you may feel excluded from the class or something if you don't show up that day.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Thank you. Cami has a question, first, she wants to say thank you for hosting this webinar. She is

finding it very informative. Her question is specifically related to August 8th as being an early start time. She is asking, would that be the start of in-person orientation or the start of classes?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: Orientation would be moved up by one week.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Okay.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: We'll forward the specific dates and you will also anticipate and should expect communication from the Registrar and the Office of Dean Bent on the particulars of scheduling. There is a fact finding process we will do with you.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: I want to reiterate that is not confirmed.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Right. Today is June 9th, so want to sign post to you because you will be hearing from our sources, we want to sign post to you what things actually are. We will let you know. But you should be thinking realistically what schools are going through, so if you were planning to get a vacation in Italy, for example, I know that's a far-fetched idea right now, now you know, maybe keep August open so that the best case scenario is nothing changes, but if we do have to move it up a week, then we want to signal that earlier than later. And we are stressing that specifics will have to be communicated later because the academic calendar is not only done very meticulously, but it is done in collaboration with you, so we'll do some fact finding process with you as well.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: A question sort of related to that is coming from Grace and I can handle this one, I think.

Grace's question is specific to the deadline for submitting transcripts, official transcripts and verifications and typically that information is due by the first day of orientation. If our dates are changing, you know, we certainly will be flexible with those deadlines in order to allow you an additional week if needed in order to get those official transcripts on file in our office. I hope that was helpful to answer Grace's question.

The next question, this is going back to the pre-law workshop, is coming from Cameron. Good question actually, very good question. Is the Blackboard interactive platform the same tool that would be used in the event campus would have to close again at some point during the Fall semester?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: I can talk that one.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: That's a good question. I'm here to tell you we have an embarrassment of platforms and now I'm relatively proficient. I won't overstate. I am relevantly efficient on five.

Jason, do you want to chime in?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: Yes, I'll chime in. From our experience last semester, all the platforms are relatively similar, but most faculty is using Blackboard and some faculty would prefer to stick with Blackboard if we go online or if they are teaching part of their class online or all of their class online, or if something happens and we need to take everything online.

Some will use Microsoft Teams and they have a good reason for doing that. The good reason for doing that is that's probably what you would use in practice if you were in a law firm.

Zoom, faculty members have preferred Zoom, it's a little less secure.

Some find it a little more user friendly, so some people are using Zoom.

Less often, using GoToMeeting or something like this. Blackboard is the primary one, but I will say they are similar in their abilities and functionality is a little different, but they are mostly the same in many ways.

And so if you are in a position like mine, or actually like our students, they actually probably, most of them, have one or two different platforms last semester and they did just fine with it.

So you may not yet have had that experience, but it's something for you to look forward. You will be the master of 18 different video conferencing platforms.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: [Laughter] Those platforms are also very resilient, don't you think? We have hundreds of multiples students.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: Except for unmuting.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: That's what Dean Bent is referring to, I have difficulty unmuting myself. [Laughter]

There's something very important in what Dean Bent said that I want to stress, so we went remote in the spring, and obviously, as did everybody. And what I want to stress about the College of Law is that we are built for that kind of proficiency. Our faculty went remote, we issued deadlines to the pedagogy in consistency with ABA. As you know now as incoming law students, the ABA is our accrediting agency. And a portion of our faculty were already in that kind of program and online pedagogy that we all had to administer.

Additionally, we are really student-focused here and our faculty worked overtime to give the one-on-one student experience. So I have no idea what

you experienced in the spring, but I do think it is very important for you to understand what you will be getting at the College of Law.

You have a dedicated faculty that takes literally its responsibility to provide high touch pedagogy and they show that to be the case in the remote world and in the summer they are already studying to do that -- to deliver that in the fall. And we are very proud of that, so that's why we take a moment to acknowledge the hard work they do.

Karla?

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Our next question is from Kathryn and Dean Bent, I think I'm going to pitch this one to you, you touched on it a little bit, but you could expand on the topic related to breaking up sections into split plans so that half are in-person, half are online, could you talk a little more about that planning process?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: Yeah, so we're working on that right now. It's not going to be a situation where -- we don't think it's going to be a situation where we break first year sections, each of the first year sections into three smaller sections. But I do think what -- what I do think will happen is we'll probably have some online-only sections so that we can concentrate those who are immunocompromised or need accommodations and can't attend in-person, if we can group them together, then we have a class that's online and separately classes that are fully live.

And so that's what we're trying to preserve. And so that means that your section probably wouldn't be quite as large as it otherwise would. Right? So if you had a section of, say, 80, if you lost some to the remote class, that section would shrink down to 60.

So what we're trying to do is make sure you still -- we're trying to work with the physical space that we have and the time slots that we have for the first year students so we can keep your section together and live as much as possible. Right? So, you know, my goal is to have, maybe instead of an 80 person section in a large room, a large classroom, maybe that's a 65 person section in the large room and then we've got some other people doing a remote class separately.

So that's what we're looking at. It's not -- we're not going to be able to break you down into first year sections of 20 for your contrast class. That's not what we're looking at.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Sort of related to that question are some questions around preference for remote-only versus face-to-face. So will students be placed in a remote-only section even if they would prefer face-to-face? Are you only placed in a remote-only section if you request it?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: If you prefer face-to-face, for some of the electives, we may be moving some of the upper class electives online and that people might prefer to take in-person, but for the first year courses, we are trying our hardest to deliver face-to-face for everyone who wants it, so that means you would not be forced into an online section if you didn't want to.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Perfect, good it.

This question is related to housing. Will the Housing Office be making arrangements to help students find housing in the event that the early start becomes a reality? So will Housing be moving up their schedule to

accommodate an early start?

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Well, the housing question is two-fold, right? We have housing on campus and the answer to that is absolutely yes. We are working to have all of the components of the College of Law be reflected and be accommodated per our schedule. So the Housing Office and the Resident Life Office and Student Life Office will be updating everybody regarding move in date. So that's something we are looking at right now, what makes sense regarding the move in date. So students who have selected to be on campus can receive specific directions as to when they can move in, et cetera.

Hearing in that question, another kind of query about if you are not living on campus, exploring what options there might be in the Tampa Bay area, and would I say we would use the same resources we use here when students have questions and want guidance.

Anything else, Karla and Jason?

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: No, I think that covers that question.

Our next one is specific to the Part-Time Program and just, you know, a general question to clarify, what will the Part-Time Program look like? Will all of the options and safety measures and remote versus on campus actions also be available in the Part-Time Program?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: That is the plan, yes.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Okay. That's a good, quick answer. [Laughter].

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Also, in our Part-Time Program, some

of our students come on campus the first year as part of the Part-Time Program. And in terms of your experience in Tampa, our building in Tampa is way more flexible, the group is smaller, so we have a bit more flexibility there.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: And this question is related to sort of the accommodations topic. What accommodations -- what would accommodations look like or be in place for a student who does become symptomatic and has to miss a large period of class time? Will they be able to catch up? Or is there risk of attending in-person, getting sick, and missing too much to not be able to continue with your classes?

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: I know Dean Bent is happy to take that one.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: That's exactly what I was talking about when I was talking about the attendance policy. We don't want you to come to campus sick, so there will be accommodations in place to allow you to successfully complete the course even if you can't come in-person.

If you start in a face-to-face session, that may mean you need to watch recordings or you maybe participate synchronously, in other words, online, but at the same time. We are looking at both of those options, but one of those options will be available to you so you can successfully complete the course even though you need to not attend in-person.

Now, you know, if you are not doing the work, you're in a situation where you are unable to do the work, I can watch the recordings, but I can't do the reading and the can't post on the discussion boards, that sort of thing, that's something you would come talk to me and we will talk about other solution that is are probably not the most preferred solution in the first

instance, things like leave of absence, right? We can take care of that with, okay, you withdraw from one course and maybe you take a leave of absence for the entire semester if it's bad, but leave you in a position to succeed academically over the long-term. But that's the sort of worst case scenario.

The best case scenario is, of course, you complete face-to-face with no problems. The next best scenario is, okay, you get sick, you don't come to class, you don't feel comfortable coming to class face-to-face, but then you continue that course remotely in some way by watching recordings, posting on discussion boards or doing synchronous participation in class. Those are the type of accommodations we are talking about.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Our next question is from Kerry. It's related to orientation. Just to preface this a little bit for Kerry. There are two types of orientation. The first period of orientation is actually online and that will likely begin in July, early July. So there is an online section of orientation, but then there's also an on campus face-to-face schedule.

So her question is, will that on campus scheduled orientation, in fact, be happening on campus at this point? Is that the plan?

And I think the answer has been yes, but if there's anything else to reiterate.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: No, the only thing to add to that is we will update you about the nuances. Nuance is the name of the game for COVID-19. So, yes, we anticipate orientation face-to-face, but that will look different than any prior year. And we'll have different schedules, different processes to accommodate students, but also different levels we will pull to

balance the presence on campus and safety.

So it's on schedule that once we solidify the academic calendar and update you on that, we will be sure to give you the accompanying orientation schedule.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: Yes, I would add we are working on that simultaneously, we are making changes to the schedule, but also making changes to the planned orientation because I'm excited to welcome you on to campus in-person in August, whatever exact date that is. I can't wait for that welcome. But we are restructuring it a little bit, so breaking you into smaller groups so we can keep physical distance and keep repeating the programs. In other words, breaking you into small groups that rotate the part of the orientation so you are not doing everything at the same time for in-person orientation. We are heavy in the planning stages for that as well.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Because it happens and we are an ambitious group at the College of Law, your orientation this year will be substantially much more detailed and provide you more academic support from the get-go than prior orientations, at least in the last 20 years. So we actually just want to let you know you are not going through the regular orientation, it will be that, in addition to academic support so you are prepared for day one of your classes. So stay tuned. We have been working on that so we really, really are happy to be able to further it and provide that schedule to you soon.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: So this next question is related to special accommodations, needs for special accommodations. Should we reach out to the Registrar and/or the ADA Office about special

accommodations for schedules? Or should we wait for the Registrar in this case to reach out to us?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: I think for now it's hold. We'll be in touch with the plans at which point, once you get the general -- the announcement of the general plans and the schedule, at that point, get in touch with us with accommodations.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: This is a great question from Kathryn, again, on the topic of orientation and the online platforms that we talked about. Will there be any type of training during orientation on how to use these new online platforms?

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: [Laughter] That is a great question.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: All of the various platforms that we mentioned.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: That is a wonderful question. We assume that you young people, and those who are young at heart, are already versed on it, but no, we have to train ourselves. We can provide a small session on how to do it. Dean Bent is actually very good at it.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: We have specialist on campus, like Julie Kitzmiller is our Blackboard Specialist. We can add some Blackboard teams and some training.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Mm-hmm.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: So this question, let's see, I'm not seeing all of it. In the event that a second wave or spike of the virus in retrospect of the Spring semester, do you expect Stetson will be able to pivot to online learning quickly?

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Yes, yes. [Laughter] We've done it so many times, we are regulars at it.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: We are doing very well.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Yeah, we do online learning very well. Obviously, we want you with us, which is why we are working hard on our fall plan. But unfortunately, knock on wood, spring comes into play, you will be fine and have a great first year education.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: I would go so far as to say that everyone has probably got their pivot plans in place already.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Yes.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: So we will absolutely be able to pivot if we need to. I'm hoping we don't need to though.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Mm-hmm. But thank you for the question because that confirms it for everyone who might be wondering.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Exactly. And just I'll go ahead and respond to Sabine. It's more of a request than a question, related to, if we are changing the schedule and moving plans up early to just give students as much notice as possible. We certainly plan to do that, Sabine. We will notify you as soon as those dates are confirmed because we do recognize that you need time to, you know, make move in plans happen and to, you know, sort of prepare yourself according to your own personal schedule. So we will notify as you as soon as we absolutely can regarding any early start. So just wanted to go ahead and respond to that one.

Yeah, let's see what else we have. A lot more coming in here. So if a person starts -- or if we start face-to-face or in a face-to-face section and then

decide we are, for various reasons, uncomfortable, are feeling unsafe, will we be able to switch to an online section?

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: I think the answer to that is going to depend on the timing. If you decide that very quickly in the semester during our, what we call the add/drop period, I think it would be relatively easy to move you over to our remote-only section if we have a remote-only section of a particular course.

On the other hand, if it happens three-quarters of the way through the semester, we're not going to switch you to a different faculty, different case book, altogether. We will accommodate in the ways I talked about, synchronous or asynchronous class, posting on the discussion board, a way to finish the course despite being physically present in the classroom.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: The next question, it looks like Melissa and Zachary have similar questions, so I'll package them together, related to facilities. So will we have other facilities open to us like the gym? Will those facilities not be available? Are there any new policies regarding on-campus dining or use of the gym?

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Wonderful question. As if you have been here as a resident.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Yeah.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: We have been working really hard on our rec hall policies and dining policies and the short answer is, yes. We will include access to library, dining, rec hall, but you should anticipate that access to those will be regulated for safety. So it won't be as freely accessible during COVID-19. And we do anticipate COVID-19 to end at some point. But

for the fall, it won't be as accessible just on your own volition. What will happen is we will disseminate a schedule and you know what to expect. You will know when the gym is accessible. We will have workers that will help all of the participants and students to determine what's safe for a period of time, 45 minutes to an hour and then the next wave. Et cetera, et cetera.

The same thing for our pool.

And for dining, that's actually a continuation of the spring where we have very strict protocol for access to food. We are expanding our dining space and have PPE regulations there that we hope to communicate to the community. But we plan for you to have access to those spaces.

I do want to stress at this point that access will be a collaboration of community understanding that we need those rules and everyone being educated what they are doing for the safety of the community, and us providing that access.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: Okay.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: I was just going to add that also factors into the schedule because I'm trying to work on staggering the end times of classes so everyone is not trying to get to dining at the same time.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Yes.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: I'll respond to Sarah's question. Like I said, we sort of touched on it, but just in case anyone missed it, the online orientation that was previously scheduled to begin June 15th has been pushed back. And that date is still pending, but will likely be early July. So we'll be sending you some notifications regarding that very soon. And by early July, I think we were thinking in terms of maybe around July 9th

or so, but we'll be getting that confirmed date to you shortly. So hopefully that answers your question, Sarah.

And I think we have time for one last question, we're right at 12:59. And it looked like there were a couple of questions around the library. Will there be restrictions on library hours or the use of the library? Will there be any safety protocols for accessing the library during the Fall semester?

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Absolutely, we are now installing Plexiglas and moving the furniture for safety distancing. The beauty of the library is we also have carrels available for reservation, so within that construct, we will disseminate a plan for access to the library for the larger student population, which will mean that you will know when the library is open, you will know how to access the materials, et cetera, and you will know how to reserve rooms.

And we are also going to maximize the common spaces for students to be there within physical distancing. That does reduce your ability to just come and go in large groups in the library, but we think with some guidance, a schedule, and spacing students can access the library at staggered times without any detriment. And then you have access as much as you can and have study periods there, et cetera.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: As a part of that question, will there also be remote access to library resources?

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Absolutely, we already do. And remote access, the library staff and the Director of the library did a wonderful job, so that's in effect right now and you will have full access. Including ordering books and picking them up at the window, what you would expect

from a library.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: That's what I was going to add, you can already go online and get whatever resources you need. And if it's hard copy, you can request it and pick it up.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Absolutely.

>> ASSISTANT DEAN KARLA DAVIS-JAMISON: There are a few questions we were not able to get to and I want to let you know all know we will respond to those questions, we'll work with Dean Alexandre and Dean Bent for any additional feedback in order to respond to those questions by e-mail, but we do want to be mindful of your time today. Thank you for spending this hour with us. We hope that the information provided regarding the plan for fall, in terms of a safe return and academic life was helpful.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact the Admissions Office and we'll be sure to get those answers to you.

And just a reminder that the session was recorded. And we will provide you a link to review the recording at your leisure if you feel you missed something or just want to go back for clarification.

So, again, thank you so much for joining us today. Thank you, Dean Bent. Thank you, Dean Alexandre. I hope everyone has a safe rest of their day.

>> DEAN MICHELE ALEXANDRE: Thank you, everybody. See you soon.

>> ASSOCIATE DEAN JASON BENT: See you in fall!

[Webinar concluded]

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