Please be on high alert for any situation in which a staff member, student or postdoc does not feel free to decide FOR THEMSELVES how to keep safe from COVID-19. Faculty MUST NOT coerce any group member into being on campus, either explicitly or implicitly. Unit heads / chairs / directors are asked to be very vigilant on this item. Please adhere to the guidance below on managing active projects.

Managing Active Projects:
For research and other project based activities, we will ask (starting with the survey) that each faculty member overseeing a project group write up a brief set of bulleted operating procedures for their project groups that – AT A MINIMUM – addresses and/or is mindful of the following points:

- The baseline approach for the majority of situations will require faculty and supervisors to identify productive ways to support project goals from off-site wherever possible for all students that work in their group – graduate, post-doc, undergrads. In the near term (Spring 2020) they will continue to be compensated from their existing support, and any deviations from this will be communicated at a later date.
- Group meetings should be held virtually to support off-site, remote participation.
- Under no circumstances should any faculty or staff pressure any students or other staff who are following university recommendations to work from off-site to instead come to the project site – the university is trying to minimize on-site personnel.
- Any students and staff who are serving in critical project roles, and personally desire to come to the project site despite guidance, must be provided as safe an environment as possible. This will include not sharing any space closely with other students or staff, being alerted to avoiding exposure to COVID-19 from surfaces, being provided with disinfectant wipes, etc., where warranted. This will generally preclude more than one individual using any project space at a given time. Any plan incorporating such continued operations involving students and staff in project roles on-site will require approval from the dean’s office.
- No plan contemplating continued operations should require face-to-face interactions with personnel who are at heightened risk to Coronavirus as defined by CDC.
- ‘Unique’ situations could include cases where major project resources or capabilities are put at risk if they are not attended to (ex: equipment that needs monitoring); other unusual circumstances could potentially include atypical research operations where project personnel function effectively and safely in controlled situations that are demonstrably in isolation from other students, faculty, and staff.
- Any plan for such isolated project activities must not be in conflict with established safety protocols.
- A faculty or facilities plan that anticipates any such deviations could include rotations, etc., where required, to realize these required features.
- The faculty plan should contemplate operations mindful of the fact that the COVID-19 response at UA will persist through the end of the semester.

Adapted from Optical Science’s Managing Research communication – March 18, 2020