EMAIL TO THE WASHINGTON COLLEGE COMMUNITY – 2/4/22

To the Washington College Community,

Please read below for two updates from this week.

COVID Update:

We have continued to see cases within our campus community throughout the week. **As of the end of testing yesterday (2/3)**, we had 32 confirmed cases. There were a total of 16 individuals in isolation in Corsica and 3 others in quarantine in Reid.

Isolation Requirements - Adjusted Protocol Effective Immediately:

At the start of the semester, it was announced that we would potentially make allowances for COVID positive students to isolate in their residence halls. While it was our intent to proceed this way for students who were asymptomatic or experiencing only mild symptoms, we are updating our guidance in response to concerns that have been voiced from some members of the campus community.

We understand that in many situations, roommates and suitemates are not comfortable with having a COVID-positive student - even when that student is vaccinated, boosted, and asymptomatic - remain in their suite or room.

Therefore, effective immediately, if a student tests positive and is unable to travel home for the required isolation period (we continue to ask students who live within a 5-hour drive and are able to, return home), we will default to moving students who test positive into our designated isolation housing on campus.

On a case-by-case basis, we will consider exceptions based on individual living situations, but again, the expectation for anyone who tests positive is that they will be required to relocate temporarily from their current housing situation on campus.

We continue to closely monitor our occupancy rate of our isolation and quarantine spaces and continue to utilize the options of having students quarantine or isolate at home or in their current residence to help manage that occupancy rate.

Please remain vigilant with all COVID safety practices this weekend - wear your mask, wash your hands and keep your distance!