

**From:** Porter, John R. <jporter@lindenwood.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:54 AM  
**Subject:** Friday Message from the President

Colleagues and friends,

## **COVID-19**

Two weeks ago, we saw a spike in employee and student cases—about 130 cases reported in just a few days. Although we are not out of the woods, I am happy to see our weekly cases declining which will hopefully continue. We assess our campus actions each week and are eager to welcome guests at events soon, with appropriate safety measures in place.

## **HLC Accreditation**

Dr. Alden-Rivers and her team have been working on our HLC Readiness Plan in preparation for an on-site visit from the HLC in November 2023. We have five Action Teams comprising more than 30 colleagues across campus working on this project, and I am pleased to report that we already have an early draft of the self-study. I appreciate all the work that many folks have put into ensuring we get a “clean” review.

## **State of the University Address**

In the coming weeks, you will be getting an invite to my virtual State of the University address which will be held in February. I plan on reviewing the past year – successes and challenges - and sharing insight to what’s ahead. My goal is to keep you informed and to keep us moving in the same direction—the best is yet to come!

## **This Week**

On Wednesday, we met with AutoZone leadership to discuss a possible relocation. They are considering the Trenary property and also suggested some cosmetic changes to the current location.

We rolled out our 1<sup>st</sup> Phorm nutrition and exercise science certification. This is our first micro-credential and was built by Dr. Kerksick and team, which will initially certify thousands of personal trainers and drive a good revenue stream for the university--nicely done!

Wishing you and your family a warm weekend.

Sincerely,

John

**JOHN R. PORTER** Ed.D.

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