

TO - NCCFT Executive Board  
FROM – David Stern  
DATE 4/9/21  
SUBJECT - Resolution on Safe Work Environment with Regard to Covid -19

## **Resolution on Safe Work Environment with Regard to Covid -19**

**Whereas**, the NCCFT is committed to the assurance of a safe work environment.

**Whereas**, Vice President Muscarella has stated that he will be working with the NCCFT on a plan to sample all areas that will be in use this fall and requested that specific concerns or suggestions, be directed to the NCCFT leadership so that they will have an opportunity to compile and summarize all of the different needs in order to respond in a more efficient and effective way.

**Whereas**, Chairs and NCCFT members have an interest in greater transparency on the status of ventilation in the work spaces

**Whereas**, many of the NCC workspaces have a history of poor ventilation as exhibited by long-term and on-going remedial actions to combat mold in these spaces.

**Whereas**, the CDC has recommended that serious consideration be made in evaluating ventilation and making feasible improvements that increase the delivery of clean air and dilute potential contaminants. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html>.

**Whereas**, the CDC and EPA recognized national expert on institutional ventilation, The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRE) has issued its Statement on airborne transmission of SARS-CoV-2 which reads: "Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 through the air is sufficiently likely that airborne exposure to the virus should be controlled. Changes to building operations, including the operation of heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems, can reduce airborne exposures" <https://www.ashrae.org/file%20library/technical%20resources/covid-19/core-recommendations-for-reducing-airborne-infectious-aerosol-exposure.pdf>

Furthermore, ASHRE has issued guidance for reopening buildings that requires careful data collection and evaluations. <https://www.ashrae.org/file%20library/technical%20resources/covid-19/guidance-for-re-opening-buildings.pdf>.

**Whereas**, funding is available through the CARES Acts' Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF I and HEERF II) and the American Rescue Plan to provide assessment and remedial measures related to deficiencies in ventilation.

**Be it resolved**, that the NCCFT request that the college provide information on the actions taken to ensure a safe work environment with regard to COVID -19. Specifically, the NCCFT will request the following information (including the methodology used and the data collected to determine this information):

- (1) Pre-pandemic Room size capacity (classrooms, labs, and student services spaces)
- (2) Room size capacity maintaining 6 ft separation
- (3) Social distancing practices in halls, stairways and bathrooms
- (4) HVAC maintenance (including installation of MERV13 or higher filters)
- (5) HVAC upgrades
- (6) Ventilation studies that include room flushing calculations by a certified Test and Balance (TAB) contractor.
- (7) Air circulation evaluation for each prototypical room
- (8) Building Readiness Plans that include pre-occupied, occupied and post occupied operations
- (9) Operation plans that will ensure the maintenance of Relative Humidity between 40%-60% to decrease bio-burden of infectious particles
- (10) Number and location of fans (less than \$100/fan) and portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) fan/filtration systems (approximately \$500)
- (11) Feasibility of installing ultraviolet germicidal irradiation (UVGI) to help enhance air cleaning inside central ventilation systems (approximately \$1500 to \$2500)
- (12) Names and credentials of contractors used to make these determinations.

**Be it further resolved**, that If the college is unwilling to provide these measures, the NCCFT will FOIL the College to obtain the information described above.