As we enter the month of April and are at approaching the end of this incredibly challenging academic year, I want to thank you for your continued efforts to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. As a community we have done an outstanding job under difficult and in some instances impossible circumstances – I am so grateful for the residential students cooperation and overall everyone’s efforts.

Earlier this week NY State expanded it vaccination eligibility to all residents age 30 or over. In addition as of April 6th all New York residents age 16 and over are eligible. Note that the Pfizer vaccine is available to age 16 and older and Moderna & the Johnson and Johnson vaccine requires age 18 and older. This is good news for Haub employees and students. You can check the [New York State COVID-19 website](https://www.ny.gov/column/new-york-state-covid-19) to find vaccine appointments. There are also appointments available from New York City, from area hospital networks, from different counties throughout the state, and from pharmacy chains. Especially with this expanded eligibility, it is likely to be challenging to find available appointments. Check multiple options, and keep checking back. There are some helpful Twitter feeds to alert you to available appointments, like @TurboVax and @NYCShotSlots. For residents of other states, please check your state’s governmental websites (i.e., New Jersey [covid19.nj.gov/vaccine](https://covid19.nj.gov/vaccine), Connecticut [ct.gov/coronavirus](https://ct.gov/coronavirus)). Don’t give up if it takes a little while! You can also visit, [direct federal distribution program](https://www.federalresponders.com/vaccine/). 

Those who are fully vaccinated still must comply with the University’s COVID-19 health and safety guidelines until further guidance is sent out. Resident students who schedule their first vaccine locally should make sure to allow enough time to complete the vaccination series prior to leaving at the end of the semester.

While the expansion of the vaccination eligibility is extremely encouraging news, I remind you that the pandemic remains a serious threat, and that we must pay close attention to news of the increasing national spread of COVID-19 and its variants. The Hudson Valley is already seeing a rise in infections.

We all want to return to “normal” life as soon as possible. We must remain vigilant about masking, social distancing, good hygiene, and following the University testing protocols. We are so close to finishing the semester. In the weeks ahead, please stay focused on reducing the spread of COVID-19, and please continue to look out for each other.

Again, warmest congratulations and thanks!

Best,

Dean D’Agostino