

UM and COVID-19

Presentation to Senate - August 5, 2020



**University
of Manitoba**

Initial Response to COVID-19

- Emergency Response Plan (ERP) was enacted March 23, 2020
- ERP is designed to guide actions, decision making, communications and overall coordination of response to an emergency
- ERP includes:
 - Crisis Management Team which includes members of the President's Executive Team, Chief Risk Officer, Director of Security Services and selected specialists including legal and communications
- Chaired by Alan Scott, Chief Risk Officer

Response to COVID-19

- COVID-19 Recovery Working Group reporting to the Vice-President (Administration)
 - Review of the academic, research and other recovery plans for a slow, safe and phased-in restoration of on-campus activity
 - Chaired by: Mr. Andrew Konowalchuk, AVP (Administration) and Dr. Todd Mondor, Deputy Provost
- Academic Planning Working Group reporting to the Provost
 - Develop plans, strategies and tactics necessary to maintain high-quality academic programming and consider academic unit recovery plans
 - Chaired by Dr. Todd Mondor, Deputy Provost
- COVID-19 Response Planning Committee
 - UM's coordinated response to positive COVID case on campus(es) - privacy matters and public health liaison
 - Chaired by Karen Meelker and Raman Dhaliwal reporting to the COVID-19 Recovery Working Group

Recovery - Guiding Principles

- The health and safety of students, staff, faculty and visitors is the overarching priority.
- All students, staff, and faculty will work remotely unless approval has been granted to work on campus.
- Any activity on campus, whatever its nature, will be carried out while strictly respecting the constraints of public health authorities and in accordance with government guidelines and directives.
- Recovery of on-campus activities will be gradual and in keeping with the University's stated principles and recovery plan.
- The University will continue to take into consideration special circumstances for staff, faculty, and students, including health conditions.

Recovery - Prevention Measures

- Stay informed and follow public health directives.
- Limit your access to campus facilities and spaces.
- Health screening will play a role in assessing access to facilities.
- Continue to practice good hygiene.
- Maintain a physical distance of not less than 2 meters and do not exceed one person per 10 m²
- Do not go to campus if you display any symptoms.
- Wear a mask or other appropriate face covering if you are unable to maintain the 2-meter distance. Wearing a mask is strongly encouraged when working in the proximity of others.
- Ensure frequent disinfecting, especially of high-touch surfaces and objects.

Phases of Recovery

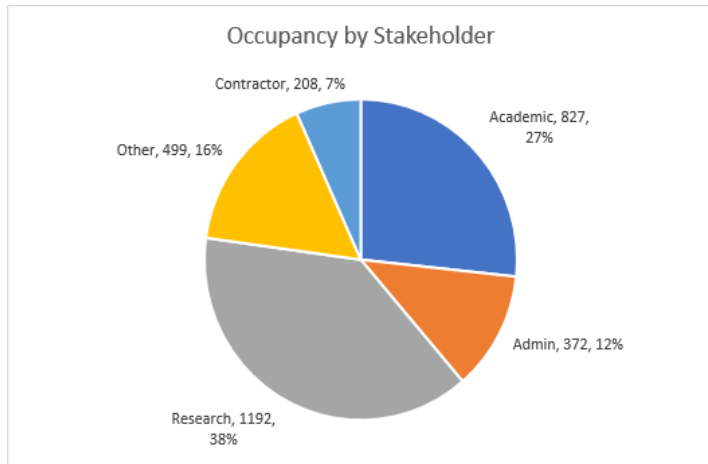
- Initial Response – Phase 1 – March 2020
- Phase 2 – Summer Term
- Phase 3 – Fall Term
- Phase 4 – Winter Term

Phase 2 – Recovery Planning

- COVID -19 Recovery Working Group was created:
 - Develops planning tools and strategies to support a safe and gradual return to on-campus activities.
 - Provides recommendations to the Vice-President (Administration).
 - Created Guiding Principles and Preventative Measures for the safe recovery of on campus activities.
 - Assesses plans in the context of evolving Provincial guidelines.
 - 20 meetings held since May 8, 2020.
 - Reviewed 34 Phase 2 Recovery Plans.

Phase 2 - Recovery Summary

- Maximum campus activities are being tracked through approved Recovery Plans (by stakeholder and by building location) to ensure adherence to our Guiding Principles and Preventative Measures



Stakeholder	Occupancy
Academic	827
Admin	372
Research	1192
Other	499
Contractor	208
Total	3098

Location	Occupancy
Fort Garry	2571
Bannatyne	524
Other	3
Total	3098

ADMINISTRATION



Phase 2 Recovery – Working Remotely

- On-campus essential activity remained in support of University operations:
 - 301 Physical Plant staff
 - 34 IST staff
 - 15 Financial Services (payroll) staff
 - 13 Security staff
 - 10 Environmental Health & Safety staff
- Majority of staff successfully transitioned to working remotely while providing critical administrative support to the community.

Phase 2 Recovery - Impacts

- Demand for Administrative support:
 - IST Help Desk saw a significant increase in activity to support students and faculty with remote exams and digital delivery.
 - IST Audio Visual support for Bannatyne dramatically increased in support of Grand Rounds and Virtual Town Halls.
 - IST purchased key software licenses in support UM staff working remotely, including Office 365.
 - HR experienced increased requests support to supervisors in transitioning UM staff to working remotely.
 - Emphasis on Caretaking Services to focus on disinfecting high-touch areas.
 - Campus Planning and Project staff shifted to provide space planning support to recovery plans.
 - Navigating national and global supply-chain shortages.
- Increased complicated and critical communications with record level engagement from internal and external community.

Phase 3 Recovery Planning

- The campus remains working in limited operations and using the COVID-19 Guiding Principles in all of our planning. The health and safety of students, staff, faculty and visitors is the over-arching priority.
- The preference for fall is to work from home where possible and reasonably practical.
- On-campus activities will remain limited (and regardless of other provincial plans evolving).
- Focused on providing the best and safest support to our University community, both on and off campus.

ANCILLARY



Phase 1

Scale down to essential activities

- Student Residences - 627 students (primarily international) on campus March 31.
- Residence Dining - to support remaining students.
- University Centre Pharmacy – remains open as per legislation.

Closures

- Bookstore, UM Retail in UMSU University Centre, Parking & Transportation Services, Retail Dining Services, and Conference & Catering.

Phase 2 - Recovery

- Fort Garry Bookstore fulfilled online and phone orders for course materials for summer term and began procurement for fall term. Bannatyne pick-up option for summer term.
- Fort Garry Bookstore opens to the public with restrictions and reduced hours August 4.
- Focal Point Optician by appointment only.
- Student Residences housed all remaining 325 students in private rooms in Pembina Hall and a summer meal plan was put in place.

Phase 2 – Recovery cont'd

- Active Living Center opened July 27, 2020 at a reduced capacity.
- University Field House, Turf Fields, and Soccer Fields open on a reduced scale to allow for Bison athletes to train.
- Food and Farm Discovery Center at Glenlea open by appointment.

Phase 3 - Recovery

- Student Residences - will operate Pembina Hall and Arthur V Mauro residences only with single occupancy and private washroom facilities (maximum 514 students). Currently about 75% booked, evolving travel restrictions for international students will affect occupancy.
- Bookstore - Fort Garry Bookstore will be open for online, pick up and limited in-store purchases. The Health Sciences Bookstore on Bannatyne Campus will remain closed for the fall term.
- Parking & Transportation Services - will be open and operational.

RESEARCH



Initial Response - Phase 1 (P1)

- UM locked its buildings on March 23rd in response to the pandemic
- Researchers required access to (locked) buildings to:
 - look after animals, other living organisms, critical cell lines
 - continue multi-year critical studies
 - maintain equipment
 - avoid losing years of research progress and/or funding
- Created a P1 form to receive requests to continue research
- Intake of forms began on March 24th
- Approximately 218 requests to continue research were received between March 24rd and May 24th (end of P1)
- 196 requests were approved

Phase 2 (P2)

- On May 25th a communique was sent to all researchers outlining a process for a phased re-opening of research (P2) requiring access to labs and facilities and field research stations
- P2 did not include research that can be conducted remotely
- Maximum building occupancy of 50% at any time
- Staggered scheduling, where possible, to accommodate the majority of requests
- PIs required to complete an attestation

Phase 2 cont'd

Number of P2 forms received by faculty

- Agriculture (94)
- Architecture (4)
- Art (12)
- Arts (6)
- Engineering (72)
- Environment (30)
- Health Sci. and affiliated institutes (196)
- Kinesiology (4)
- Music (2)
- Science (124)

≈ 1192 researchers

Current Issues

- Researchers (especially social sciences and humanities) requiring access to libraries
 - libraries have submitted a plan to RWG (approved) and is providing curb-side pickup
- Requests to begin/resume research involving human participants
 - create approval form
 - vulnerable communities (permission), modification to ICF

ACADEMIC



Phase 1 - Winter Term 2020

- Shift to remote learning as of March 23rd
- Suspended sections of ROASS to allow 'pivoting'
- Delay of voluntary withdrawal date
- No in-person final exams; SEEQ not conducted
- Duo-lingo as an approved English Language Proficiency test for Fall 2020 and Winter 2021
- Suspension of requirement for medical notes, and repeated course policy
- Flexibility offered for course grading:
 - Standard approach - letter grade accepted
 - Accept letter grade but exclude from UM GPA calculations
 - Pass/Fail

Convocation 2020

- Successful virtual Spring Convocation
 - Graduating students invited to submit a photo and/or video message
 - 4,255 students convocated and nearly half submitted content
 - Ceremony live-streamed with nearly 5,000 viewers and also hosted on the UM's YouTube with over 9,000 views;
 - Viewed around the world – i.e., Canada, U.S., United Kingdom, India, Nigeria etc.
- 31st Annual Traditional Graduation Pow Wow
 - Live-streamed celebration for 60 Indigenous graduates
 - Featuring Indigenous musical performances and messages from Indigenous community and alumni.
 - More than 250 live viewers and 6,600 video views

The Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning

Contingencies for Teaching



Announcements

[Centre Endorsed & Supported Teaching & Learning Technologies](#)

[UM Learn Login Changed](#)

[Foundations of Online and Remote Learning \(5 hour course\)](#)

[Information / Resources to Assist with the Move to Remote Learning](#)

View our resources below to access video tutorials and information regarding teaching remotely, creating and adding content on UM Learn, and guides on Webex.



Quick Start to Teaching Remotely

A quick step-by-step guide to teaching remotely using Centre resources.



Online Workshops

Register for an online teaching or Framework support workshop.



PowerPoint

Guides to narrating your presentation.



UM Learn

Tutorials, **Respondus 4.0**, resources and support for delivering courses and assessments.



Promoting Integrity in Online Learning

Strategies to support academic integrity and copyright considerations for online and remote courses.



Cisco Webex

Quick guides and support for online classrooms.



Alternative Forms of Assessment

Best practices and alternative formats for online and remote courses.



Well-being & Support

Resources to support coping during the pandemic.



Resources for Teaching Assistants

Resource page for TAs working remotely to support course instructors and students.

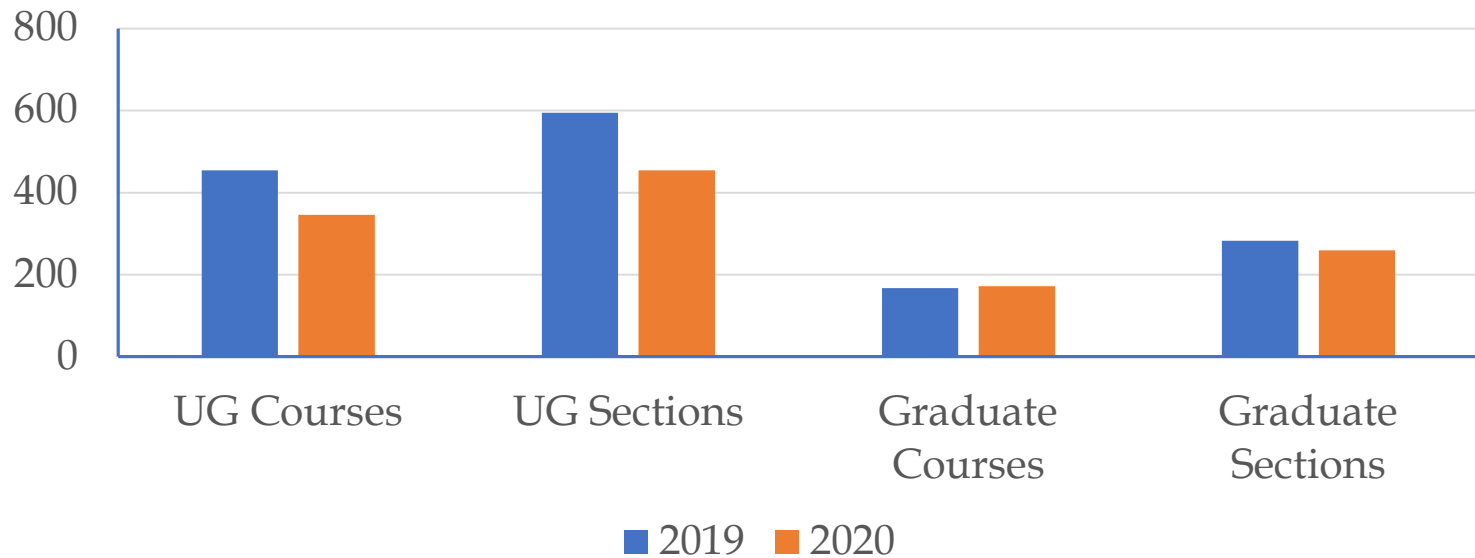
- Contingencies for Teaching Remotely website
- Enhanced support for instructors and especially students for on-line exams
- Established a toll-free number for video-conferencing for students with limited internet connectivity
- Multiple approaches to support remote course design
- Large pool of resources for academic integrity support for instructors

Phase 2 - Summer Term 2020

- University buildings remain locked.
- Summer Term was declared as entirely by remote learning and with a delayed start (June 1).
- Limited in-person activities on campus:
 - Teaching: support for summer course and preparation for Fall term
 - Research: essential research activities
 - Services: essential services and/or activities that could not be completed by remote means, including library materials curbside pickup for faculty and graduate students.
- As provincial restrictions relaxed, some increase in access by faculty and staff has been made possible

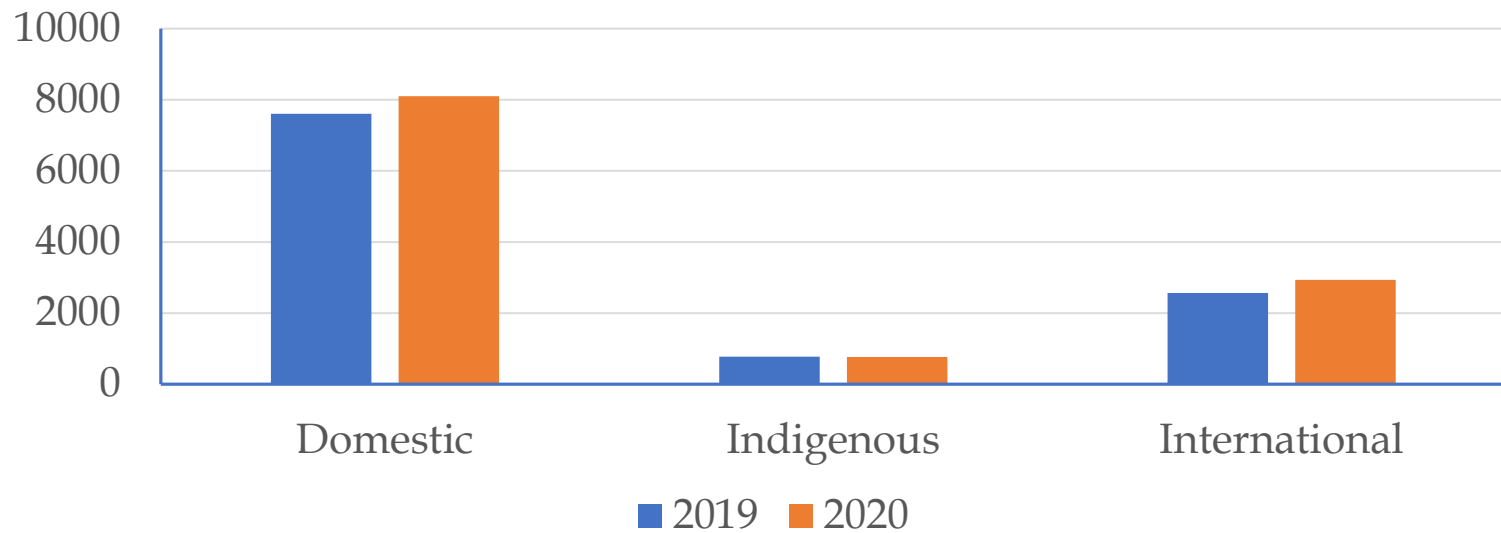
Summer Term by the Numbers

Courses & Sections



Summer Term by the Numbers

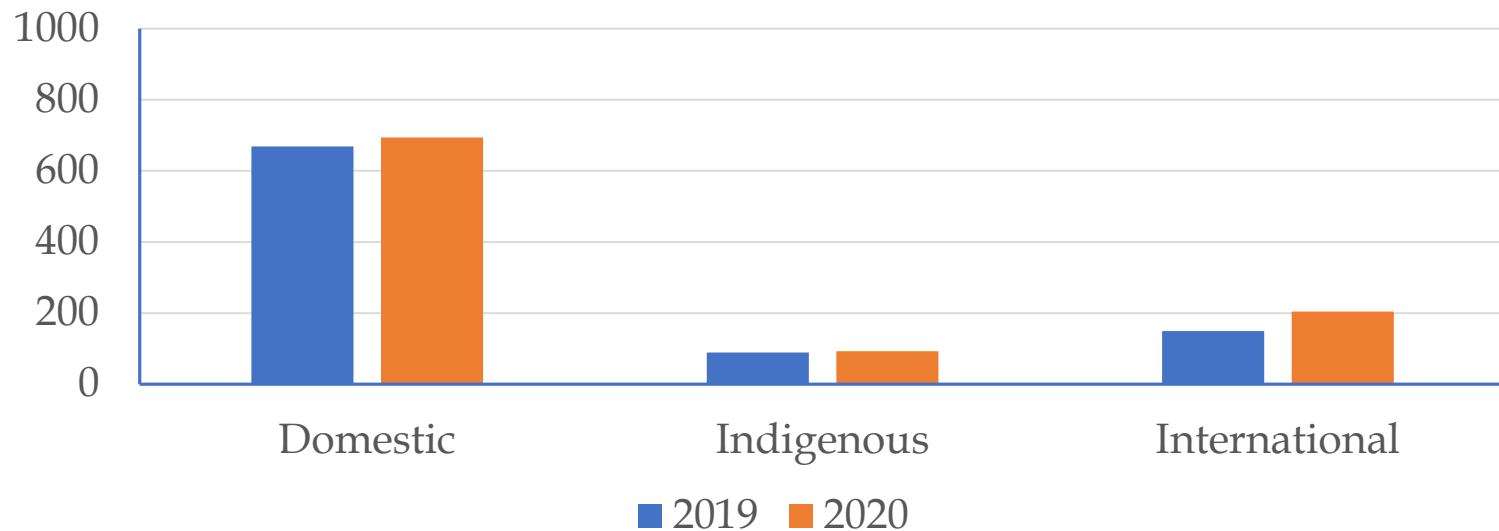
Undergraduate Student Participation



Total Undergraduate Credit Hours increased to 66,425 in 2020 from 59,009 in 2019

Summer Term by the Numbers

Graduate Student Participation



Total U & G students increased to 11,933 in 2020 from 10,988 in 2019

Phase 3 - Fall Term 2020

- All possible courses for the Fall Term offered through remote learning.
- Some courses, or activities within courses, that could not be offered remotely were approved for in-person instruction. All of these were either program / degree requirements or would cause a significant delay in progression for students if not offered (205 courses approved out of 1775)
- All courses approved for in-person instruction are required be operationalized in accordance with all health and safety and social distancing requirements.
- Delayed the start of Winter Term 2021 to allow for delayed allowing for some possible critical in-person activities for Fall Term courses to be held between January 5 and 15, 2021. (56 courses approved)

Fall Term - Reason for Optimism

- Acceptance rate:
 - Fall term 2020 admission cycle is still not complete.
 - Preliminary figures indicate that the conversion/acceptance rates for competitive programs, direct entry, and advanced entry are at **similar levels** when compared to previous years.
 - Preliminary figures for non-competitive programs, direct entry, and advanced entry are also at **similar levels** to previous years.

Support for Students

- All student support programs, services, and supports delivered remotely
- COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund
 - Approximately \$2.1M disbursed to students
- Technology Support
 - Minimum technology requirements
 - On-line exam technology support
 - Financial support for computers
 - \$76k raised; 113 students supported for Summer term
 - Program to continue (pending donors) for Fall term
 - IST computer refurbishing

First Year Experience Initiatives


- UM Essentials: on UMLearn platform – series of modules to support the transition to university life and study
- Math Boot Camp: 3-week refresher in August
- Prep Week (Aug 31-Sept 4): introductory course material launched, special lectures, academic success workshops, homerooms, and community building
- Welcome Day: official welcome/invocation, faculty program meetings, club & student org sessions

UM Commons: Virtual gateway to resources, supports & connections

Territory acknowledgement

[Current students](#) [Faculty and staff](#) [Alumni](#) [Email](#) [News and events](#) [VISIT](#) [APPLY](#) [DONATE](#)



[Admissions](#) [Academics](#) [Research](#) [Student Supports](#) [Community](#) [About U of M](#) 

Welcome to UM Commons

To help you get ready, thrive, and excel.



We're excited you're joining the UM community, new Bisons! This site was created just for you. Come back often as information will be continually updated to ensure you have what you need when you need it.

UM Commons

[Territory acknowledgement](#)
[The Spirit of the Bison](#)
[UM Essentials](#)
[Student communities](#)
[Student government](#)

Support for Faculty

- Libraries: Digitization project, HathiTrust & curbside pick up for faculty and students
- Extended tenure period – one year
- Paid training on remote teaching for sessional instructors
- Enhanced support by CATL for remote teaching including a robust suite of in-person and online supports for instructors, and a pilot of Respondus Monitor for summer term exams with possible rollout to Fall term
- Flexibility regarding changes to research study leaves.

UM Recovery Approach



UM Recovery Approach

- Work that may be done remotely still should continue to be done remotely where possible and practical.
- Activity in support of approved on-campus instruction and research plans should be prioritized
- All on-campus activity must:
 - Align with public health guidelines which are outlined on the [UM COVID Recovery website](#);
 - Activities should be limited, and where possible scheduled using a phased or staggered approach;
 - All physical distancing, and health and safety standards must be met and [self-assessment tools](#) must be used.

UM Recovery Approach – Phase 3

- As of September 1 the maximum percentage of employees within a Faculty or unit that may be permitted to attend on-campus at a given time is restricted to **40%**.
- This percentage is to include all research, teaching, support and administrative activities within a Faculty/Unit.
- Deans and Unit heads will have the responsibility for determining access.
- Building occupancy will be tracked and monitored.
- In the event of a resurgence in the pandemic or an increase in risk to the UM community, then activity may need to be reduced and restrictions strengthened.

For Further Information and Updates

<http://umanitoba.ca/coronavirus>



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