February 8, 2021

Dear OU College of Pharmacy Community,

COVID-19 has had an unprecedented impact on our community over the past year. As we navigate the start of 2021, I wanted to provide you all with an update detailing our efforts through the ongoing pandemic. The College of Pharmacy, in collaboration with OU Health and the Oklahoma County Department of Health, has been working tirelessly to respond to this public health crisis. Since obtaining vaccinations on December 16th, we have administered over 18,000 shots to our frontline health care workers, employees and various members of our community. We will continue to serve alongside our university partners as we receive additional supply.

Our faculty, staff and students have played an active role in the distribution and administration of COVID-19 vaccinations. More specifically, the College of Pharmacy team has contributed over 4,600 hours of their time to prepare and perform vaccinations, deliver materials to various sites, and assist with a multitude of administrative tasks. I would like to give a special shout out to Dr. Susan Conway, Dr. Teresa Lewis, Senior Associate Dean Eric Johnson and Administrative Director Kevin Rinaldi for their extraordinary efforts in carrying out the administrative and clinical planning needs for the vaccine clinics. Thank you to all 131 individuals for their hard work and contributions to this fight.

In addition to our vaccination clinics, the College is committed to reducing the spread of COVID-19 through different processes and protocols. We strive to keep our campus safe by promoting physical distancing, restricting building entrances to the appropriate personnel, and requiring all individuals to wear a mask. As we still have a long journey ahead, we encourage everyone to stay up to date with University requirements.

I truly appreciate your dedication to slowing the spread of COVID-19. Through these challenging times, your efforts have and will continue to make a lasting impact. We are proud to be an integral part of our state’s efforts in protecting our community and stopping this pandemic. One vaccine at a time, we will get through this together.

Sincerely,

JoLaine R. Draugalis, RPh, PhD, FAPhA, FASHP
Edith Kinney Gaylord Presidential Professor
Dean and David Ross Boyd Professor
Phil C. and Ferne Ashby Endowed Dean’s Chair
Regents’ Professor