

# Department of Genetics Townhall Meeting

02 FEB 2022

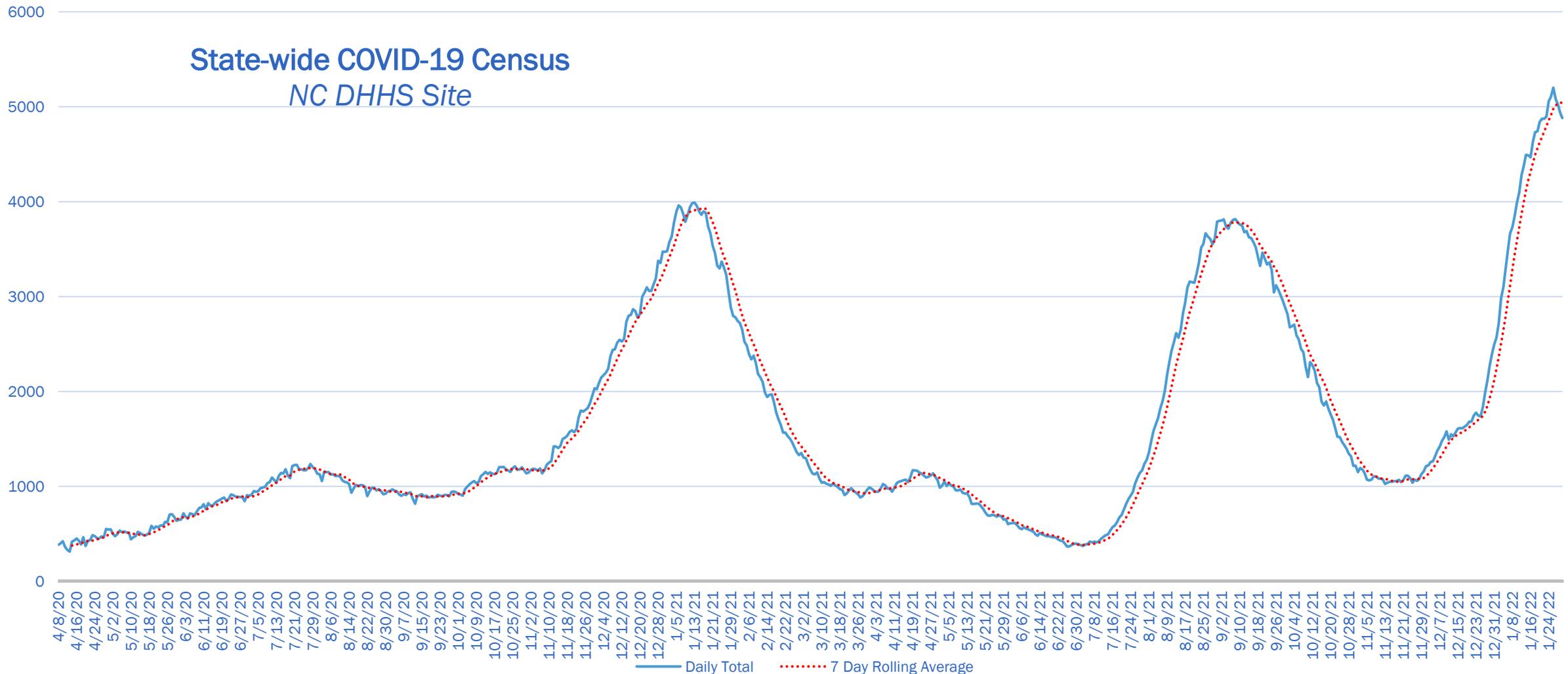


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# Agenda

- Covid Guidance
- Wellness Survey
- Announcements
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Resources
- Travel Guidance
- Hiring Plans for 2022
- Salary Increases
- Metrics and Headlines – since September 2021

# The COVID census in N.C. hospitals trended slightly lower this week



# The UNC Health forecast this week reflects a lower peak

**UNC HEALTH**

**Filter Options**

**Dates To Forecast**  
10/1/2020 5/4/2022

**Entity**  
UNC Health

**Select Census Type**  
 Hospital Census  
 ICU Census

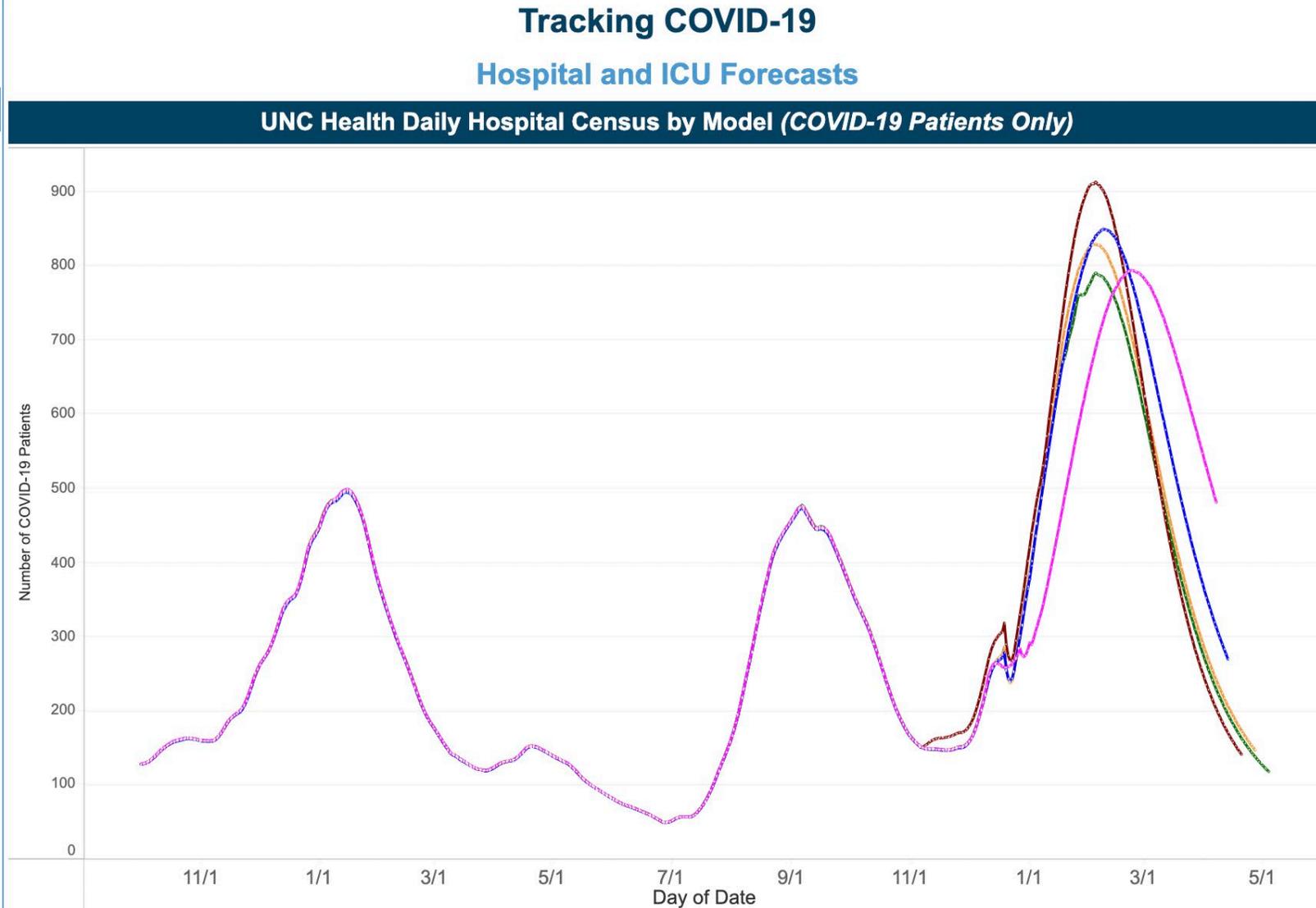
**Show Capacity**  
NO

**Select Models (Includes Actual)**  
(Multiple values)

- Bayesian SIR v77 (January 5) - AVG
- Bayesian SIR v78 (January 11) - AVG
- Bayesian SIR v79 (January 18) - AVG
- Bayesian SIR v80 (January 25) - AVG
- Bayesian SIR v81 (February 1) - AVG

**Dashboard Information**

Date Refreshed  
1/31/2022 11:18:35 AM



# Covid-19 Guidance and Resources

- No changes to density restrictions in labs (for now)
- Continue to wear masks while in campus buildings (unless you can isolate in an office or conference room)
- Wear surgical, KN-95, N-95 masks (no cloth masks)
- Do not eat in groups (inside or outside). SOM Planning Office is installing outdoor heaters associated with restaurants
- Avoid large group meetings in person
- PPE and other supplies – department has surgical masks, Clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, gloves, water bottles. Let us know if you need anything
- Starting this week, UNC SOM will provide N-95 masks for all employees; stay tuned for availability details. Not mandatory but an additional mask option (surgical and double-surgical) – updates from Cara
- Everyone encouraged to order free covid test kits from federal government

# Covid-19 Guidance and Resources

- Anyone testing positive should isolate at home for 5 days or until symptoms resolve. People that are potentially exposed should stay home if symptoms develop and get tested. While not mandatory, we ask that you inform your PI if you test positive (this will be kept confidential)
- Carolina Together testing program at Carolina Union now by appointment only through UNC HallPass app. Students can go to Campus Health for testing. Faculty and staff are recommended to use their health care provider, pharmacy, drive-thru testing sites, etc.
- Compliance with unit guidance
- Impact on teaching
- Impact on research – make back-up plans, anticipating people will be isolating

# Wellness Resources

- Dr. Sarah Schoenrock is the department's Well-Being Liaison
- Department administrators who are Safe Zone-certified
  - Cara Marlow, Sam Robinson, John Cornett, Sarah Schoenrock
- Department administrators who are Mental Health First Aid-certified
  - Cara Marlow, John Cornett
- Department website includes Mental Health & Wellness resources
- **Mental Health Resources For Students:**
  - [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) (Available 24/7; Telehealth Appointments: 919-966-3658)
  - [Dean of Students](#)
  - [Student Wellness](#)
- **Mental Health Resources For Faculty and Staff:**
  - [Employee Assistance Program](#)

# Well-Being Survey

The Department would like feedback and ideas from faculty and staff on:

- Ideas for additional resources or events for the department?
- Barriers to well-being for you and your lab's working environment?

Please complete this brief survey: the link was sent by email and is included in the "chat"

Summarized results will be presented to the department and the Research subcommittee of the SOM Well-Being Committee

# New DEI Survey from Press Gainey

- SOM Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion has worked with Press Gainey on a new survey for SOM and UNC Healthcare
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Climate Survey
- Survey open: February 8-26
- Please respond

# Genetics Colloquium - Reminder

- Wednesdays at 12-1pm
- Zoom links sent by John Cornett
- Speaker in person in Bioinformatics 1131 – lab members and collaborators can attend in person (with masks)
- Please attend the seminars to show support for your colleagues and to learn about the amazing variety of research programs in the department
- We need speakers!! Please reach out to John Cornett, Katie Hoadley or Ageliki Tsagaratou if you are interested in speaking.

# DEI Resources, News and Website Links

- Department website includes Diversity and Inclusion resources
  - Resources with links
  - Upcoming DEI events and trainings
  - Latest Genetics DEI news
  - Funding opportunities for URM scientists and for grants that focus on URM populations
- John Cornett selected to serve as Diversity Liaison for BCB/GMB curricula to support students

# 2022 Department Annual DEI Training

- Mandatory training for all faculty (similar to last year Bias 101)
- ***Understanding and Navigating Microaggressions***
  - 1 hour (March 2 at noon)
  - Training will explore the concept of microaggressions.
  - Will explain important terminology related to microaggressions and will discuss some of the reasons that microaggressions can be challenging to identify and address.
  - Will give participants the opportunity to work in small groups to analyze specific examples of microaggressions that occur commonly in different SOM work and learning environments and to talk about how these might be handled in the future.
  - The training will require active participation, so please be present and prepared to engage with the content.
  - We encourage interested staff, trainees, or students to participate.

# Educational Pathways to Increase Diversity in Genomics

- UNC EDGE was developed by the [Program for Precision Medicine in Health Care \(PPMH\)](#) and is led by Genetics faculty members Drs. Folami Ideraabdullah and Jonathan Berg.
- Two-year summer program combines career education, mentoring, and research skills training to support students from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds that are interested in careers in genomics.
- UNC EDGE welcomes applications from college freshman and sophomore students who are underrepresented in the field of genomics. This includes Native Americans/Alaska natives, Hispanic Americans, Hawaiian natives/US Pacific Islanders and African Americans as well individuals with disabilities or from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Applications will be accepted starting on January 18, 2022, and the link can be found on the PPMH and Genetics websites

# Precision Medicine Approaches to Addressing Covid-19

## Virtual Mini-Symposium and Forum – Feb. 23, 1-3pm

Join the [UNC Program for Precision Medicine in Health Care](#) (PPMH) for Precision Medicine Approaches to Addressing COVID-19, a free virtual mini-symposium from 1:00-3:00pm on Wednesday February 23, 2022.

Presenters will explore how data has informed our response to the COVID-19 pandemic: the collection, analysis, and interpretation of COVID-related data.

**Real-time genomic surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 in an academic medical center** [Melissa Miller, PhD](#)

Professor, Department of Pathology, and Director, Clinical Molecular Microbiology Laboratory -AND- [Jeremy Wang, PhD](#), Assistant Professor, Department of Genetics

**Predicting the unprecedented: An ongoing saga to forecast the impacts of COVID-19 on UNC Health and the communities we serve.** Ryan Kelly, Principal Data Scientist, ISD Enterprise Analytics & Data Sciences (EADS), UNC Health Shared Services

**What Can We Learn from 3.6 Million COVID-19 Cases?** [Emily Pfaff, PhD](#), Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

Click [here](#) to register. Click [here](#) or contact [precisionmedicine@med.unc.edu](mailto:precisionmedicine@med.unc.edu) for more information.

# Research Development Workshop Series

The Department of Genetics and Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center (LCCC) are starting a new series of workshops focused on Research Development.

The workshops will focus on three themes:

- Research Program Development
- Project Management
- Research Administration

These workshops are relevant to staff involved in project management, graduate student, postdocs, and faculty.

Contact Sarah Schoenrock, Genetics ([sarah\\_schoenrock@med.unc.edu](mailto:sarah_schoenrock@med.unc.edu)) or Andrea Walens, LCCC ([awalens@email.unc.edu](mailto:awalens@email.unc.edu)) with questions.

# Communication Essentials Workshop

## COMMUNICATION ESSENTIALS: TEAM DEVELOPMENT, DYNAMICS, AND CULTURE

The seminar will cover the following topics:

Define communication and identify communication breakdowns

Improve your communication style to minimize misunderstandings

Enhance your listening skills to promote better understanding

Feb. 16th, 2022  
9:30am - 12pm

Hosted by:  
Daisha Gaines  
from the Office of  
Human Resources  
and Organizational  
& Professional  
Development

Sponsored by:  
UNC Lineberger &  
Genetics

Offered via Zoom.  
Register at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/y2myd9pz>

### SERIES INFORMATION

UNC Lineberger and Genetics are starting a new series of workshops focused on Research Development. We will be focusing on three major themes throughout the workshops offered: Research Program Development, Project Management, and Research Administration. These workshops are relevant to faculty, especially junior faculty, trainees, and staff involved in project management. This is the second in the series of workshops we will be offering and it is relevant to all parties.

- Wednesday, Feb 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am - 12:00 pm
- Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2myd9pz>

- UNC employees are required to book their airfare online via Concur Travel or directly with agents at World Travel Inc.
- If the event has negotiated lodging rates in place, UNC encourages you to take advantage of those rates and book directly with hotel
- If negotiated rates are not available, employee must book lodging via Concur Travel or directly with agents at World Travel Inc.
- Car rentals must also be reserved via Concur Travel or directly with agents at World Travel Inc.
- International travel still requires approval

# Visa Processing

- Allocate up to six months processing time
- Increased compliance requirements, including export control and science and security reviews

# Q & A



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