

To the UTM Research Community:

With my sincere sympathy and regret, I am writing today inform you that research activities on our campus must resume operations that ensure 2 m physical distancing and capacity limits in all research spaces. Please refer to the memo (attached and can be located here: <https://research.utoronto.ca/update-omicron-variant-and-research-operations>) circulated earlier today from Lori Ferris, Associate Vice-President, Research (Oversight and Compliance). At UTM, we will abide by all policies outlined in the memo from Professor Ferris, but have the authority to operationalize these policies for our local context.

To that end, and as noted in our [memo](#) posted on October 20th, previously approved PI requests to access on-campus research facilities are our fall-back position and are once again in effect. At this time, we are not requiring that PIs to seek formal approval to access on-campus research facilities, but we ask that they abide by the spirit of these plans and ensure that they schedule operations to ensure physical distancing can be maintained in their research spaces. Furthermore, PIs should revise their plans to account for new trainees, and must also have these individuals complete the [declarations](#) to access on and off-campus research sites; at this time, we ask that these forms be collected and secured by PIs.

As always, if you have any questions about this memo, or your use of UTM research spaces, please feel free to reach out to us for guidance.

Stay safe,

Steven M. Short, PhD
Acting Vice-Principal Research
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