

Dear LNS members,

As you well know, Massachusetts and MIT are seeing an increase in the number of COVID-19 infections. This trend is likely to continue as we approach Winter and the holiday season. Also, the areas around the laboratories where we do research are seeing similar increases.

We remind you that it is essential that we continue to be vigilant to minimize the virus's chances to spread. We need to be careful at work but also outside of work. Despite the pandemic, LNS researchers have been making good progress in advancing our science, with most of us working remotely. We are careful and thoughtful. But we are not entirely isolated from the outside world. Some LNS community members have had positive test results; they, and their close contacts, had to stay in quarantine.

We encourage you to read the recent [MIT Medical Department newsletter](#) that talks about the upcoming holidays, in particular, the discussion of why getting tested before a family gathering may give us a false sense of security.

Similarly, while at your office or your lab, you need to follow strictly the safety rules related to maximum people density in a given space, masks, and social distancing. Please review the [MIT regulations](#) if your lab is at MIT and follow these and all additional requirements if you are at some other location. You can also find guidance on making, wearing, and washing face coverings on the [CDC website](#).

MIT has asked us to carefully monitor compliance with the rules. LNS has a Monitoring and Compliance committee that is overseeing the activities at the laboratory. Please let any of us know if you see any issues with the rules or people not following them. You can also report violations at <https://hotline.mit.edu>.

LNS Monitoring and Compliance committee

Paul Acosta  
Heidi Demers  
Karen Dow  
Andrew Gallant  
Or Hen

Jim Kelsey  
Benedikt Maier  
Scott Morley  
Brandon Roach  
Bolek Wyslouch