

Good afternoon, USC!

Here are your updates for the week of August August 23rd-27th

Important Information:

Lunchroom:

As more people return to work we know that there are some questions regarding the lunchroom. You can use the lunchroom to prepare your food, however you can not eat in the lunchroom as your mask must be worn at all times. Currently only one person can access the lunchroom at a time. Please make sure to clean up after preparing your food.

InfoSource:

We are excited to announce that InfoSource will be reopening on September 7th!

Spoke Kitchen: The Spoke Kitchen is opening this week!!

Wave: The Wave is expected to open the week of the 30th! There will be a special lunch to be announced later today in the COO email.

Parking:

On September 1 all campus parking lot gates will be lowered and Parking & Visitor Services will resume collecting fees for parking services. Access to parking areas will once again be with active paid permit or pay-as-you-go visitor parking. To receive the USC discount you must renew your parking at the parking building.

Work From Home Stipend:

The last installment of the work from home stipend will be paid out on August 25th!

Departmental Updates:



The Purple Store

Lululemon has arrived at The Purple Store!

We are excited to announce our newest partnership. Starting this week, we will be offering a clothing line exclusive to The Purple Store. Visit us [online](#) to check it out!

PEOPLE AND DEVELOPMENT:

Staff Courses Link:

Please note that a link to a Staff Courses Reimbursement form has been added to the Staff Hub - [Staff Courses Reimbursement Form](#). Just a reminder that the Staff Courses benefit is separate from Professional Development and is meant for areas of study that you are taking outside of your employment. If you have any questions about whether or not something will be covered, please contact Andrea Klooster.

Wellness Program:

Just a friendly reminder that if you would like access to a Headspace account you can enroll for free using this link! Headspace is a wonderful app that has guided meditation sessions, workouts, podcasts, and playlists created to help you focus while doing work!

<https://work.headspace.com/universitystudentscouncilofwesternuniversity/member-enroll>

FINANCE Please reach out to the Finance team regarding deposits and payments. We will do our best to accommodate your financial needs in a timely manner. AP cheques will continue to be mailed, be sure to include an address.

July 2021 financial reports have been sent out this week. We are preparing for Orientation week. We are here to issue Purchase Orders and deposit cheques as needed. Please ensure approvals are in place.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

We are all hoping the Zoom-era is drawing to a close, but here's an interesting take on virtual meetings, both because of the company involved and the technology they are pushing.

Facebook announced last week that they are testing a virtual-reality based "meeting space" named Horizon Workrooms. The idea here is that you will put on a VR headset and interact with your colleagues in an augmented reality meeting room where their cartoon-like avatars will appear sitting across the table from you.

What do you think? Take a quick poll and I'll post the results next week:

<https://westernusc.forms-db.com/view.php?id=379306>



(<https://about.fb.com/news/2021/08/introducing-horizon-workrooms-remote-collaboration-reimagined/>)

PRODUCTIONS: With OWeek rapidly approaching, please give generous timelines for when you need work completed as we will be training new part-time staff and may not have the supervisory capacity to direct staff to new areas of the building for them. Please continue to email workorders@westernusc.ca as needed for your support request to be triaged!