

Cruise Committee: COVID-19 Planning

Summer 2020 Training Cruise Recommendation

Apr 30 Draft

Cruise Committee: COVID-19 Planning

MEMBERSHIP

- Chair
 - Sam Pecota
- Voting Members:
 - John Coyle
 - John Finch
 - Scott Green
 - Mike Hoffman
 - Don Maier
 - Lina Neto
 - Fred Reiman
 - David Taliaferro
 - Dan Weinstock
- Cadets (*invitees, non-voting*):
 - Mitchell Jacobsen
 - Lukas Oswald
- Guest presenters (*invitees, non-voting*):
 - Philippe Cumia
 - Michael Kazek
 - Anthony Konecni
 - Franz Lozano

Cruise Committee: COVID-19 Planning

- Committee convened four meetings
 - 27 Mar | 10 Apr | 24 Apr | 28 Apr
- COVID planning objectives guided deliberations
 - Prioritize the health and safety of the campus community.
 - Sustain our educational mission to ensure that all of our cadets can graduate on time.
 - Continue to assess and monitor the situation alongside public health and state and local officials.

Cruise Committee: COVID-19 Planning

- BLUF – The Recommendation
 - Voting members of the Cruise Committee voted unanimously to cancel the TSGB cruise for Summer 2020

Rationale for Recommendation

- Extremely Compressed Calendar
 - The delay in the proposed start of F2F classes does not provide adequate time to run a full 62-day cruise.
- F2F Instruction Priority
 - It would allow more time for F2F classes to properly deliver content, without the pressure of cruise.
 - F2F classes can be pushed back to July-Aug if necessary.
- Adequate Planning
 - Delaying cruise until next year would allow more time to plan properly for the new COVID protocols.
- Benefit to Cadets
 - Cadets believe that providing a full cruise experience would be more beneficial to them professionally.

Rationale for Recommendation

- Risk Factor
 - Vallejo is not a low-risk city for COVID.
- Morale & Fatigue
 - A no-port cruise is undesirable to crew, faculty and cadets and would lead to low morale and greater fatigue.
 - Required 14-day pre-cruise isolation period not very practical or desirable.
 - Many food service workers do not want to volunteer for cruise this summer.
 - Canceling summer cruise will relieve a lot of anxiety among many faculty, staff, cadets and parents.

Rationale for Recommendation

- Willingness & Interest
 - Some prospective adjunct engineers are no longer interested in cruise under new COVID conditions.
- Trust & Communication
 - There was a perceived push by the administration to run cruise despite all the concerns being expressed.
 - Canceling cruise demonstrates an acknowledgment of these concerns and builds trust with the administration.

Concerns for Canceling Cruise

- Degree Completion
 - What happens to 2020 grads?
 - Can we ensure they will graduate this summer?
- Unprecedented & Unknown
 - We don't know what the conditions will be moving forward that would allow for adequate contingency planning.

Possible Solutions to Explore

- Run two cruises next summer (if possible).
 - Two cruises next summer may also be able to accommodate many CRU200 & 250 cadets
- Run mini cruises over observed holidays (Thanksgiving or Winter) and scheduled spring breaks.
- Conduct 14-day dockside steaming cruise.



Medical Considerations (Dr. Bruce Wilbur)

- Testing, treatment, and prevention
 - No guarantee we can obtain ANY test kits at this time and testing is vital for a safe cruise.
 - Only limited testing ability for asymptomatic people at this time.
 - Antibody testing unreliable at this time.
 - Anderson-Kelly protocols, while a good start, may not yield sufficient confidence of having a COVID free ship.

As we learn more about COVID-19, we should reach a point where we can implement a solid plan for a safe and *rewarding* voyage...just not yet.