

SPECIAL EDITION

COVID-19
NEWS

NAU NORTHERN ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY

Thursday, May 14



President Cheng and Josh Mackey share professional development opportunities

Though the annual Employee Development day has been cancelled, NAU Human Resources is offering a series of virtual professional development sessions, and staff and faculty are encouraged to take advantage. Sessions cover a variety of topics. For a list of classes and registration, visit the **Learning and Development page on the HR website**.

Watch the full video online.

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**Lumberjack CARES
Act Grant**

Visit nau.edu/coronavirus/caresact

NAU begins disbursing CARES Act grants to students

Northern Arizona University will begin distributing the majority of the federal funding received through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act directly to eligible students. The initial email went out Tuesday, and by the end of the day, more than one third of eligible students applied for the grant. For more information and links to the necessary form, visit [NAU's CARES Act page](#).



NAU bioengineer develops 3-D simulations of sneezing, coughing to help motivate social distancing during COVID-19 pandemic

The Cardiovascular Biomechanics Lab, which studies different cardiovascular diseases, has shifted focus from blood flow in diseased arteries to airflow and airborne aerosol transport in lung airways.

Assistant professor of mechanical engineering **Amir Arzani** is now using computer simulation techniques to study the mechanics of sneezing and coughing.

"We have all heard about the importance of social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic," Arzani said. "However, there are many questions about its effectiveness. We wanted to know whether this virus can spread during sneezing, coughing and even regular breathing. We wanted to know how wearing a mask will influence the spread and how far apart we need to stay from one another to be safe. Does this depend on our own breathing pattern as well? Will the situation change during a windy day? These are all questions that we are trying to answer using CFD simulations." [Read more online.](#)



NAU researchers testing northern Arizona wastewater for COVID-19 outbreaks

Crystal Hepp, an assistant professor in SICCS, is testing wastewater in six locations in Flagstaff, Munds Park, Kachina Village and Kayenta, to help determine the spread of COVID-19. Because the virus is shed in human waste, she believes sewage is a viable avenue for its detection.

While scientists predict second or even multiple COVID-19 outbreaks, Hepp believes wastewater testing may function as an early and ongoing warning system, especially in rural communities underserved by health care workers and medical facilities, and can alert wastewater plant operators to elevated risks. [Read more online.](#)

[Get up and move: At-home workout with strength and conditioning coach \(VIDEO\)](#)

