

Reducing the Risk of COVID-19 throughout College Residential Communities

Austin Harper, Aly Lord, Holston Sebaugh, Carlos Valdez

Faculty Mentor: Carol Yin, PhD
Mathematics Department

The Public Health Department suggests that it is advantageous for college residential students to be grouped into “communities.” It suggested that doing so may reduce the spread of COVID-19 among students. Members of a “community” are those that would be together for large portions of the day even when outside of the residence hall. Based on a hypothetical, but realistic residential student list, the task of deciding on dorm placement (building, floor, and room) for each student was attained. Each author/speaker involved took on the role of one of four campus leaders, who each wanted the assignments to meet some set criteria. The Vice President for Academic Affairs wanted majors grouped together, the athletic coaches wanted athletes grouped together, the housing director wanted to promote diversity, and the business office wanted to reduce costs. The assignments followed the Public Health Department's suggestion as described above while compromises had to be made in order to also satisfy the four campus leaders' wants.

Video Link: <https://youtu.be/NGa8bM9l6ys>