For those interested, Dartmouth is posting statistics about on-campus COVID-19 testing to a COVID-19 Reporting Dashboard with data updated twice weekly. There is currently only 1 active case on campus, and that individual is quarantined and receiving appropriate care. With nearly 12,000 tests taken since July 1, it seems the safety protocols and care we are taking to prevent the spread of the coronavirus are working well. Nice job, everyone.

Keeping the Mail Moving
Like many Campus Services operations, Hinman Mail has modified its processes to keep students and the broader community safe. According to Dean of the College Kathryn Lively, “Hinman Mail will not release mail and packages on demand outside of scheduled pick-up times.” Instead, Hinman notifies students by email that they may pick up their mail and packages at a designated time during business hours.

Students who come to pick up their packages may place their ID on a table outside the Hinman Office. The Hinman employee will then scan the ID, retrieve the student’s package, and place it on the table for pick-up. With the line moving quickly, students seem pleased to retrieve their mail and packages in a safe and friendly manner.

Managing Hazardous Waste
Do you know how Dartmouth manages its hazardous waste? Collecting, storing, and properly disposing of hazardous waste is one of many responsibilities of our Environmental Health & Safety office. Let’s learn about it through an interview with Jason Angell, hazardous waste manager and laboratory compliance officer.

Q: What types of hazardous waste does EH&S handle?
A: We collect chemical, radiological, and biohazardous waste from all areas of campus, including research laboratories, FO&M, athletics and residential life.

Q: What does EH&S do with the waste?
A: We collect waste from its point of generation on campus and bring it to our waste storage building. From there it’s labeled, dated, coded, and segregated by hazard and type. The waste is disposed of via hazardous waste disposal contractors who pack, transport, and deliver waste for final treatment.

Q: Where is the waste storage facility located?
A: Our main waste storage facility is a semi-separate building located between Vail and the Life Science Center courtyard. The building is currently being upgraded to provide general and point source ventilation to control and exhaust vapors, odors, and any potential hazardous conditions. The upgrade is scheduled to start this fall and be completed in April, 2021.

Construction in the West End
One of the busiest places on campus is the west end where construction of the Irving Institute and the Center of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS) are underway on either side of the Thayer School of Engineering.

One might imagine complete chaos, but the area is quite well-organized with clear pedestrian pathways, informative signage, and contractors who are focused on the tasks at hand. While work continues on the parking garage below CECS, all other enabling projects to add utility infrastructure, roads, and parking are complete. Both buildings are expected to be ready for occupancy in fall, 2021.

From l to r: the blue exterior of the CECS building is visible behind the Thayer School, while steel beams are assembled at the Irving Institute.