Dear student,

As the end of the semester and academic year quickly approach, we know many are wondering about what the upcoming fall semester will be like for our campus community. Yesterday you received information about enrolling in fall 2021 classes, and today we have additional updates to share.

Circumstances continue to be fluid, but based on current information and trends, we want to share the following updates regarding fall 2021. Please know that we will continue to provide updates and additional information over the course of the final weeks of spring semester and throughout the summer months.

COVID-19 Vaccinations to be Required

The California State University system announced today that all faculty, staff and students who access campus facilities this fall must be immunized against the coronavirus, contingent on full approval of one or more COVID-19 vaccines by the FDA as well as adequate availability of the fully approved vaccines. We know this raises many questions. We are working to understand what this means for our students and will share more information once it is available.

In the meantime, we encourage all individuals ages 16 and older to make an appointment to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. If you cannot get a vaccination from a health care provider, visit myturn.ca.gov or the San Diego County vaccination website.

Also, we are now receiving limited doses of COVID-19 vaccines for distribution to CSUSM students. Please watch your email for an invitation to make an appointment at the campus vaccination site.

Health and Safety

The health and safety of all members of our internal and external campus community remain paramount. If changing circumstances warrant, campus repopulation will be reconsidered and shared with as much advance notice as possible. As we move forward, we will continue to follow all county and state COVID-19 health and safety protocols.

Over the summer, Safety, Health and Sustainability staff will work with units and departments upon request to evaluate campus office, conference, and other spaces to determine any required changes to meet the required county COVID protocols. All work, academic, and research spaces will be cleaned on an ongoing basis according to the latest Cal/OSHA guidance.

On-campus Services

All on-campus services and offices will be open for students and employees to access with appropriate physical distancing and, in some cases, at a reduced capacity.

The University Library will be open at a reduced capacity of normal occupancy as will the University Student Union. More information about hours of operation and occupancy will be announced over the summer.

On-campus Dining and Events

We are exploring the possibility of opening some of our on-campus eateries at a reduced capacity with tables and chairs spaced out to accommodate physical distancing. Outdoor dining will be strongly encouraged.

Events and co-curricular activities will be offered in a variety of formats, including online, hybrid and in person. In-person events may have limitations related to the number of participants and event locations. More information will be available in the summer.

International and Domestic Travel

Since there continues to be restrictions on international travel to and from the United States, we are uncertain what visa challenges our international students and traveling abroad community members may or may not face. We are monitoring the situation and will update international students in the coming months.

With regard to travel within the United States, the CSU plans to lift travel restrictions effective June 1. Currently, the CDC advises that people who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 can travel safely within the United States. However, those who are not vaccinated and must travel should follow CDC recommendations for unvaccinated people.

More Updates to Follow

Our planning teams are continuing to consult with various campus stakeholder groups and create plans for fall semester. Given this is a complex and ever-shifting situation, we will continue to provide updates as information is available. If you have specific questions not addressed, you are welcome to email csusmasone@csusm.edu.

While these updates reflect significant progress as we move with optimism toward fall semester, we know the gradual reopening of society and our campus brings with it a new set of anxieties and difficulties, in many ways just as complex as the shift to remote instruction last March. We are deeply thankful for your ongoing patience and adaptability over these past 13 months.

More information to come – and in the meantime, please stay healthy and safe.