Dear campus community,

It has been exciting to see and feel the energy of our campus this week as we welcomed students back for in-person classes and services. We are pleased that CSUSM’s COVID-19 case counts have been decreasing each week since the height of the Omicron surge.

The State of California is lifting its indoor mask mandate for fully vaccinated individuals beginning Feb. 16. However, San Diego County is still designated as a high transmission area based on CDC criteria, and Cal/OSHA and the California Department of Public Health are still recommending that masks be worn indoors. As part of our ongoing efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health and safety of all members of our campus community, we will continue to require face coverings indoors regardless of vaccination status beyond Feb. 15 and until further notice.

Your health and safety continue to be our top priority. Wearing a proper, well-fitted mask indoors is one effective way we can all help slow the spread of COVID on our campus. Masks are available for anyone in our campus community who needs one. Surgical masks and hand sanitizer stations are located at the main entrances of all university buildings. For more information on the locations and the types of masks available, visit the Covered Cougar Distribution Center resource page.

We appreciate your efforts in complying with campus protocols, getting your vaccine and booster if eligible, completing mandatory testing, and masking indoors. Please know that we will continue to monitor COVID-19 guidelines and cases in our region, and will provide updates as needed.

For more information about the university’s COVID-19 response efforts, please visit the CSUSM as One website.