Dear CSUSM Community,

We are writing with an update to our July 23, 2020 campus message about two members of our campus community who had tested positive for COVID-19. We have just learned that one additional employee working on campus reported a positive lab test for COVID-19 and another is presumed positive, but not confirmed. The employees are connected to the cases we shared with you last week. They were last on campus on July 17, 2020 and have been self-isolating since that time.

We are not able to release the names of these individuals or provide any identifying information out of concern for their rights to privacy. We are offering both employees care and resources. Please join us in sending thoughts for a quick recovery as this is certainly a time of great concern for them and their loved ones.

As we continue to put safety and health first, we continue to review our protocols and revise and improve our processes. If you have not been notified by CSUSM that you have been in close contact with someone who has, or is suspected of having, COVID-19 there are no special precautions that you need to take at this time. However, everyone should follow prevention precautions to keep themselves healthy. If you are concerned about your health or think you have been exposed to COVID-19, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has information on what to do.

As has been reported in the media, positive COVID-19 cases are continuing to spike in California. This is why it’s vital that we all take care of ourselves and each other by reviewing and practicing preventative measures, and encouraging others to do the same.

We rely on our students and employees to let us know if they believe they may have COVID-19 and will follow privacy guidelines that allow us to keep our campus safe while protecting individual privacy.

- If you work on campus and test positive for COVID-19 or have symptoms, please notify your supervisor immediately.
- If you are a student, please contact Student Health & Counseling Services immediately if you are tested for COVID-19 or are experiencing symptoms.

In the present situation, employee notifications led to our ability to reach out to a handful of other employees who were potentially exposed.

We want to assure you that we have enhanced COVID-19 cleaning protocols to keep our buildings clean and campus environment safe for everyone. There are additional sanitation and disinfection guidelines for spaces that have been occupied by someone diagnosed as COVID-19 positive. When a situation warrants, the university will close all or part of a building for disinfection, notifying the occupants of that building in advance as appropriate.

As a reminder, employees should always fill out the CSUSM COVID-19 Screening form each day that they will be on campus (before reporting to work or entering any campus building). Supervisors should only approve faculty and staff to come to campus if it is critical to campus operations, preparation for fall semester that must be done in person, or other essential activities that can only take place on campus.

Please help us keep everyone safe by wearing a face covering, practicing social distancing, using good hygiene practices such as covering coughs and sneezes, washing your hands and avoiding touching your face, especially your eyes, nose or mouth, as recommended by the CDC.

We are deeply appreciative to everything our community is managing during these complex times. If you have any questions about CSUSM’s response to this situation or the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, please email covid@csusm.edu.

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