



Office of the President



January 17, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

Over the weekend, I had the opportunity to meet with the Board officers to analyze our current public health situation and provide an update regarding the new guidance for Instructions of Higher Education (IHE) issued by the Los Angeles Public Health Department.

The new guidance requires us to test everyone who has not completed a full vaccination series and/or is eligible a booster and has opted not to receive one. This includes all students and campus employees. This week we will sign a contract with a vendor who is able to meet increased testing capacity. However, the lead time to get them on campus is 3 weeks.

Consequently, we are extending our return to campus to **Monday March 7, 2022**. Detailed information regarding this new requirement from LADPH will be sent from HR tomorrow, Tuesday, January 18. Moving the return to campus date allows us to build the capacity for the new testing requirements and will also allow us to return to campus after the peak of this recent COVID surge.

Please note that you may continue to come to campus if you wish to do so. You can also help us by submitting your booster card through Optimum HQ. If you do not have a booster and you are eligible, please consider getting your booster shot. Please know that booster shots are currently not mandatory.

Once again, I would like to express my gratitude to ALL of you for your flexibility, resiliency, and commitment to our students. Thank you for all you do; I appreciate you.

Jose

Jose L. Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent