



Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to provide a follow-up to President Robbins' statements in our recorded **weekly reentry briefings** regarding the return to teaching in-person classes for Fall 2020. President Robbins accurately described the intent of our plan, which is to provide flexibility and choice for each of you, wherever possible, should your individual risks for serious complications from COVID-19 or related concerns (e.g., caregiver status) make in-person interactions a concern, even with robust public health precautions. That said, and as President Robbins noted, there are roles that simply cannot be performed remotely, and we recognize that some individuals may be facing very difficult trade-offs at this time.

As a reminder, many of our students have chosen an in-person experience in their choice of degree type and our university, and it remains important to them based on the feedback we have received to date. We are motivated to return to in-person teaching in response to our students' strongly stated preferences, and because our operating model as a research-intensive university depends on it. To support this effort, a great many measures are now being implemented to limit the spread of COVID-19; such as, a requirement to wear face masks, physical distancing rules, and increased sanitizing routines. Our Test, Trace and Treat protocols are being developed to support the health and well-being of all our Wildcats.

If you have concerns about returning to in-person activity, I ask that you work directly with your department head/chair/director to determine what **Temporary Modified Work Conditions** might be able to be implemented, given your roles and responsibilities, and the needs of your unit or department. If you can't easily resolve a path forward with your manager, please

- Work with **DRC** if your concerns relate to a personal medical condition or a disability, or
- Work with **HR** if your concerns relate to other issues.

If you do not have concerns, please expect to hear further directions from your department head/chair/director about how your department will operate in the coming academic year, along

with specific adjustments to minimize COVID-19 spread.

As always, I welcome your questions and comments as we navigate these uncharted waters. I share the anxiety about our future that many of you have expressed, and ask for your patience and compassion towards each other as we figure out together how to partner to deliver our research, teaching, service and extension missions in new modes.

Regards,

Liesl Folks

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
University of Arizona

This message was sent to all faculty

Thank you for supporting the University of Arizona.

Copyright © 2020 The University of Arizona. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

University of Arizona

PO Box 210066

Tucson, AZ 85721 US