

June 24, 2020

Dear Mariner Community,

Throughout MCU's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have remained focused on the health and safety of our faculty, staff and students. This commitment has never wavered, and it remains a guiding tenet as the university prepares to reopen campus for the fall semester.

Informed by the latest guidance from local, state and federal government officials and public health authorities, the university is working on a plan for staff to return to work in a coordinated process that meets appropriate social distancing requirements and other approved mitigation methods.

To allow for the time needed for these preparations, the President's Cabinet has voted to extend the ongoing campus closure through July 31. However, we will continue to permit faculty and staff to come to campus as needed for mission-critical operations and the necessity to access on-site resources, in accordance with their supervisor's direction and our ability to manage specific work environments.

We are currently reconfiguring our facilities and spaces to reduce the risk associated with virus transmission. We also are configuring workspaces to allow for six feet between individuals and have installed plexi-glass barriers in common areas. The university is also implementing a robust cleaning and sanitation process in all public buildings, with special attention to high-touch surfaces. Additionally, cleaning supplies will be available for individuals to make touch-ups to their workspaces. And in adherence with all health regulations, face coverings will be required on campus.

It is imperative that we share the responsibility for keeping our entire community safe. Faculty, staff and students will be expected to follow all on-campus protocols and to observe the safety guidelines in their offices, classrooms, labs, The Villas and when out interacting with the community. Given that cases in Southern California continue to rise, our situation is fluid, and we remain nimble in our planning.

We know these last few months have not been easy, personally or professionally, and you rose to the occasion, and I am proud of your extraordinary efforts. This has been an exceptionally difficult time, and the university will continue to work toward keeping employees supported during these challenges.

Thank you for your flexibility and patience.

Sincerely,

Brian Marcotte