June 10, 2021

Dear Students,

We are looking forward with excitement to your return to campus this fall. After a successful, but modified, academic year, we are working hard to restore “normal” operations, to ensure an outstanding academic experience, and to continue to maintain the health and safety of the community. Today, we write you to share important updates about the fall semester, based on current conditions.

**Calendar**
The Law School will hold full in-person instruction with the semester beginning as scheduled on August 23 and ending December 17, including the traditional fall and Thanksgiving breaks as well as a one-week pre-exam study period. See the academic calendar [here](#).

**Vaccine Requirement and Required Reporting of Vaccine Status**
1. To promote the health of our community, the University will **require** that all students, faculty, and staff receive a COVID-19 vaccine. This requirement will go into effect as soon as one of the vaccines receives full approval by the FDA (see exemptions below) – but we encourage all members of the community to receive the vaccine prior to the beginning of the fall semester. Once the requirement is in effect, you may choose any vaccine that is either fully approved by the FDA or subject to an FDA Emergency Use Authorization. Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson currently have Emergency Authorization, while Pfizer and Moderna have already applied for full status. International students may meet the university’s vaccination requirement by receiving any vaccine authorized by the [World Health Organization](#).
2. As is our current practice for other required vaccines, students, faculty, and staff may seek a medical or religious exemption from the vaccine requirement. You may also seek an exemption from the requirement to have a covid-19 vaccine based on strong personal convictions. Information on how to seek an exemption will be provided in the near future. People who are not fully vaccinated will continue to be subject to arrival and prevalence testing and the University’s [mask policy](#).
3. All students are required to report vaccine status to the University through the [Student Health Center portal](#) by June 30, 2021, and to update their status within five days of any change in status.

**Academics**
Starting in the fall semester, the University will not be offering remote study. Our classrooms will be restored to traditional physical arrangements. We also will not be offering “blended” learning where faculty teach students in-person and online simultaneously. Although this form of instruction was necessary last year, our strength is dynamic instruction in small classes organized around robust discussion. We look forward to doing just that this fall.
We will maintain the Physical Distancing Framework for the fall semester and will update it as appropriate. We are currently in the Lime Stage of the Framework. We do not yet know what stage we will be in at the start of the fall semester, but it is our hope that with high rates of vaccination among students, faculty, and staff and lower cases in the community, we will be able to open in either the Lime or, even better, the Green Stage.

You can find more details on these updates on the University’s Fall 2021 page. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Dean Sklut.

Sincerely,

JFP.

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