

Message from the President July 23, 2021

Dear campus community,

I hope this message finds you well and that you are enjoying your summer, including taking time for selfcare and rest on our resiliency days. We are just about six weeks away from the start of the new academic year. Campus is buzzing in preparation for welcoming our first-year and returning cadets at the end of next month. The *T.S. Golden Bear* just departed for its second 45-day cruise following a successful first cruise when many of our Class of 2021 graduates officially became Cal Maritime alumni.

As we prepare for the new academic year and the repopulation of our campus, I would be remiss not to acknowledge the long, hard road we have weathered together to successfully achieve our academic mission with our community's health and safety as our priority. This remains our top priority and at the forefront of all planning and decision-making. We continue to work closely with the Solano County Public Health Director in monitoring and guiding us through the ever-changing COVID environment. In light of the increased public health threat of the delta variant of COVID-19, I want to reiterate our expectation that *everyone on campus who can be vaccinated gets vaccinated*. Below is an update and outline of changes to our Cal Maritime face mask protocols that reflect the current COVID environment and are in line with the CDC, our county, and Cal OSHA guidelines.

- In order to best protect the campus community as we move into the fall, we are requesting campus community members that are fully vaccinated to complete the **self-attestation** at the following <u>link</u> to assist in our efforts to monitor and control the risk of COVID-19 infection on campus.
- Campus community members attesting to full vaccination can continue to wear a face mask if preferred, but it is not required while outdoors and is **recommended** while indoors, except as directed. <u>Self-attestation</u> is **required** for all vaccinated individuals who want flexibility in not wearing a face mask. All employees will also need to complete a brief online safety training within two weeks.
- Community members not attesting to full vaccination will be <u>required</u> to wear a face mask at all times (indoors and outdoors), except as directed.
- In the classroom, the Faculty Instructor of Record will determine the face mask requirements for their classes based on individual classroom conditions and will communicate these requests to their Department Chair and Dean.
- For shared workspaces, supervisors will collaborate with their staff to determine face mask requirements.
- The Health and Safety Task Force will be recommending a COVID testing and surveillance requirement for campus community members that have not attested to being fully vaccinated before August 2nd.
- <u>Daily Health Screening</u> must be <u>completed daily</u> when on campus.

• We expect our entire campus community to get vaccinated. Visit the <u>California Department of</u> <u>Public Health (CDPH)</u> website for the latest information, including where you can get vaccinated.

Campus leadership will be formalizing the update to the campus COVID-19 protocols in the coming days. Please note, as we have all learned, public health recommendations and mandates may change at any moment, and we will adjust as necessary. We will continue to monitor the situation and work with Dr. Chou, the Health and Safety Task Force, and the Solano County Public Health Department. Please reach out to your supervisor if you have any questions or visit the campus <u>COVID-19 webpage</u> for more information.

I am excited to see all our staff and faculty return in the next few weeks. You are the essential heart of this campus and the reason we are successful in our academic mission. We are planning several opportunities for all of us to gather and reconnect, starting with Coffee on the Quad on August 2nd, 0830-1000. More to come, but for now, please continue to enjoy your summer. I look forward to a wonderful, safe reunion of our campus community this fall.

In service, TC

Thomas A. Cropper President California State University Maritime Academy