

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 9, 2021

TO: CALS Faculty

CC: Dean Burgess, Interim Director of Cooperative Extension Ed Martin, Associate Dean for Research Parker Antin, Bart Cardon Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Career Development Michael Staten, Assistant Dean for Faculty Advancement Jean McLain and Unit Heads

FROM: CALS 2021-2022 Faculty Council


SUBJECT: Masking Recommendation

Although state law prohibits any mandatory public health measures, as leaders in our community, it is essential that CALS faculty, administrators, and staff set an example and encourage responsible behavior. The Faculty Council strongly recommends that all CALS faculty, administrators, staff, and students follow current CDC guidelines while in buildings, including in the classroom.

CDC Guidelines as of July 27, 2021:

- Recommendation for fully vaccinated people to wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission. Pima County, AZ is currently an area of high transmission.
- Fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask regardless of the level of transmission, particularly if they are immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease from COVID-19, or if they have someone in their household who is immunocompromised, at increased risk of severe disease or not fully vaccinated.
- Recommendation for fully vaccinated people who have a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 to be tested 3-5 days after exposure, and to wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.
- The CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status.

Although state law prohibits any mandatory public health measures, as leaders in our community, it is essential that CALS faculty, administrators, and staff set an example and encourage responsible behavior. We formally ask CALS administrators to publicly support CDC recommendations and consider providing each department/school with necessary training and/or technical support (e.g. microphones) for faculty who are concerned about effectively teaching while wearing masks. We further ask that CALS administrators set an expectation that students follow the same CDC guidelines to ensure the safety of other students, instructors, staff, and our surrounding community.



Although we are not sure of the information that will be provided or its relevance to public health concerns, we do want to bring to everyone's attention that the Pandemic Academic Coordination Workgroup is holding an information session on Monday, August 16th from 11 am - 12:30 pm. Please consider attending if you have concerns or questions or need additional assistance in planning for teaching this fall. Registration for the event can be found at <https://provost.arizona.edu/content/pac>

Approved by Faculty Council vote on August 8, 2021 (10 agree, 0 disagree, 4 abstain).

