
From: Bernadine Chuck Fong <fongbernadine@fhda.edu>
Sent: Friday, December 17, 2021 11:42 AM
To: foothill
Subject: State of the college and Omicron news
Attachments: Winter Q Student Screeing_2021-12-17 at 10.35.30 AM.png

I would like everyone to know that I have asked the campus administrators to be on alert and we will remain in close touch (a cell phone away) with our health office professionals during the holidays and quarter break, in the event that the Omicron virus becomes dangerously more prevalent in our area, and we need to pivot somewhat from our Winter Quarter opening plans.

We will continue to closely follow the **county guidelines**, and will alter any plans for Winter quarter, *if the guidelines so suggest*. Otherwise, there is no change to our Winter quarter plans until further notice.

However, I do want to note that this pandemic has turned everyone into an amateur epidemiologist, and we will all be exposed to multiple and even conflicting opinions from the media, and one another, so we need to remain calm. Yet, remember that our requirement for all students, with some recognized exceptions, is to be vaccinated, like ourselves, and they are not allowed to register until they have provided such evidence, so anyone in a classroom or meeting should be assured that you are with an overall vaccinated population, a lot safer than if you went to Costco. **However, the mask mandate for indoor spaces remains an ongoing county guideline and it is a Foothill requirement.**

Attached is a summary slide of the work of our very diligent Student Services, in screening students coming to campus.

For those faculty currently assigned to teach in-person classes, those classes will be offered as listed, pending enrollment. Unfortunately, it is impossible to know what or when the county guidelines might change. I too, because of a previous commitment prior to coming back to Foothill, will be teaching an in-person course next quarter and can definitely empathize with the situation of uncertainty, but personally, I am proceeding as originally planned with my department, which is teaching in-person, knowing I might have to pivot at any moment, as I did the last two years.

Wishing everyone, hopefully and genuinely, a *restful* and *happy* Holiday Season!

Best regards,

Bernadine

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