POST-COVID OPPORTUNITY SCAN

1. On campus learning experiences are an essential component of most students’ education, and as such the campus should commit to maximizing the available on campus course offerings in the fall. The university should communicate clear priorities for a sensible combination of online and face-to-face courses during AY 2021-22 that recognizes the holistic nature of the student experience. Establish guidelines to support departments in assigning work that fairly balances the needs of students, instructors, and the department as a whole.

2. When appropriate, support and encourage hybrid staff schedules that combine remote and on-campus work. Establish baseline criteria for remote work that is not mandated by health and safety. Simplify the approval process and allow these arrangements to be managed at the unit level.

3. Organize student support so as to be more easily navigable and offer essential services both online and in person. Make these services accessible in the evenings and on weekends.

4. Strengthen university communication. Create a university Slack workspace that automatically enrolls all students, staff, and faculty. Create channels for all university service departments.

5. Standardize all university forms to use Adobe Sign. Ensure that the purpose, protocol, and deadlines for forms are clear to users.

6. Employ health and safety response teams to enforce COVID safety protocols on campus and respond to classroom disturbances. Focus on an equitable response and de-escalation of conflicts.

7. Streamline the processes by which departments can have courses approved for online and hybrid instruction and work with the Chancellor’s Office to better communicate expectations to students when a program offers a mix of online and on-ground courses.

8. Engage in serious planning and thinking about university operations in an era of climate disruptions where uncertainty is the norm.

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