COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

May 14, 2021

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Sheldon Tan, Chair
Committee on Undergraduate Admissions

RE: SR. Proposed Policy SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program

The Committee on Undergraduate Admissions reviewed the Proposal Policy SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program and are supportive of the proposal. The committee acknowledges that this policy is critical for many faculty to be willing to return to predominantly in person instruction in the Fall. The committee feels it will facilitate a return to normal instruction which could conceivably positively impact the willingness of students to attend and even apply in the future.

The committee requests clarification on the following:

1) Vaccine Declination: The proposal states: “Individuals who are not vaccinated and do not have an approved Exception or Medical Exemption documented on a Declination Form will not be cleared to access University Facilities or Programs in person.” Does this mean that remote learning will be provided for these individuals? Are there alternatives like deferred enrollment for freshman and transfer students if they fall under this category? There will be declinations (not just among students, but among some faculty as well) and this issue will arise.

2) In multiple spots, including the Policy Summary, the document refers to a person receiving the COVID-19 vaccine as a requirement for, in effect, full participation in university activities. Perhaps this should be strengthened to require the person to be "fully vaccinated." This term is clearly defined by the CDC, and basically means two weeks following the full sequence of doses (1 or 2) of the vaccine that is administered.

3) The verbiage on disabilities is confusing and perhaps misleading. On page 10, it seems to refer to a specific disability---being immunocompromised. Surely this is a medical exemption, though the disability service offices might play a supportive role should that exemption be challenged. But on page 3, the wording is so terse that it seems to imply that any disability is automatically a medical exemption. Perhaps the "; or disability" on page 3 should just be dropped but keep the verbiage on page 10.