

# MINUTES

## GOVERNANCE COUNCIL – October 6, 2021

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**Members Present:** Chris Bailey, Wendy Hall, Kristen Finnel, Brad Benjamin, Catie Graham, Dana Cummings, Mark Gaither, Adam Wolfer, Michal Watts, Sam Orth, and Bryanna Smith.

1. **Minutes of July 28, 2021**

*Minutes were approved unanimously*

2. **Staffing Impact of Vaccine Mandate -**

Sam Orth, Human Resources Director, joined the Governance Council to report on the staffing impact of the vaccine mandate. She reported that, as of late afternoon yesterday, only about 70 employees have not been verified as fully vaccinated. Out of the 70 employees, 34 individuals are in the process of getting vaccinated and should be fully vaccinated by the deadline. No full-time faculty are included in the employees who have not yet been verified, but there are 19 part-time faculty who have not been verified. All deans have received a list of the part-time faculty in each department who have not yet verified so contact can be made with each employee if possible. Part-time faculty who are separated as a result of the mandate can reapply and be hired in the future with proof of vaccination. About 35 individuals have received approved accommodations and all accommodations will be re-evaluated after 60 days. There are also about 20 employees who have resigned as a result of the mandate.

3. **Winter Modality -**

Brad Benjamin mentioned that some faculty members have inquired about shifting modalities for winter quarter. Some faculty lean towards teaching in-person and some lean towards teaching online only. Faculty will be instructed to contact their deans if they would like to change modality. It is encouraged to choose course modality that will best support student success.

There have also been some student complaints regarding things being open (not open) on campus. Although campus is advertised as being open, many doors are locked and some services are still remote. It is important to remain aware of perceptions of students and the public. It is also important to frame things in the current environment in a positive light. The Emergency Operations Team (EOT) continues to work with departments across campus to try and balance student services/needs with campus health and safety.

4. **Other-**

Adam Wolfer inquired about what faculty are supposed to do in situations where students in their course test positive for COVID-19. Nolan Wheeler mentioned that all protocols are laid out in the campus safety plan. Members of the EOT also attend different meetings to communicate updated information to faculty. Consistency has remained important since the beginning of the pandemic situation and all classes on campus have very thorough mitigation plans.

Brad Benjamin inquired about community case rates. COVID case rates are still very high, but seem to be leveling out. The county is at about three times the case rate of last winter. Although hospitalization rates are down, death rates are up.

A security camera request was also submitted for a camera to be installed by the Head Start East building facing the loading dock due to theft and damage being done in that area. The request was **approved** by the Governance Council.

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 4:23 PM.