

From: [Reveley, Taylor](#)
To: [All Faculty, Staff & Contract Employees](#)
Subject: Looking Ahead to Spring Semester
Date: Friday, December 31, 2021 1:20:35 PM

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

The holiday season has provided some rest, I hope, and meaningful time with family and friends. Before the new year, I wanted to touch base with you to offer reassurance the University has been closely monitoring this surge of the omicron variant.

We will communicate next week with updates about the spring semester reflecting the latest public health guidance. Campus conditions may require some practical steps, at least in the early weeks of the semester, to make sure we are doing our part for the greater good.

At this time I do not anticipate changes to our academic calendar, and undergraduate classes will begin on January 12 as planned. There are important differences now in facing Covid than in the past: our highly vaccinated campus community, the nature of the variant itself, and our successful experience on campus over these past two years. There is new guidance in place from the CDC. Overall, I am confident we will be able to have a successful semester on the strength of our community, experience and good protocols.

To be sure, these next few weeks will be a challenge, and for faculty and staff in particular disruptions involving family members and schools will likely add to the difficulty. Navigating through this surge will require patience, flexibility, and grace from all of us. And as circumstances change, we may need to adjust, too. That said, we appreciate more than ever how much in-person learning matters, and we are committed to it. We can weather this latest surge and emerge stronger, as we have done before.

Many thanks, and please stay safe and support one another as we usher in 2022,
President Reveley