

COVID Response Committee Report

University Council

February 2022

As co-Chairs of the committee, Dr. Poulsen and I present this report on behalf of the COVID Response Committee. The CRC is once again active this year, **Giving Voice** to faculty, staff and students through various means of data collection, **Listening** to responses from the administration re: questions and concerns, and **Reporting Back** what we learn to the University Council. Thank you to all who have responded to the survey as well as to individual email messages we have received. During the first month of spring semester, we received a substantial number of responses from faculty, staff and students via the survey and email. Analysis of the data to date indicates the main concerns related to safety and well-being remain prevalent: mandatory vaccinations, mandatory masking, testing/tracing, and distancing. We are also continuing to see and hear that people – faculty, staff and students – want to be on campus and in classes but want to do so in a safe environment. This information was communicated to the President’s Office. The university continues to provide access to vaccinations at the University Health Center; access to masks, including KN95 masks, through individual units and various locations across campus; work with the Georgia Department of Health for contact tracing; and strongly encourages safe COVID-related practices. We will continue to meet with deputy chief of staff, Dr. Alton Standifer, to provide on-going updates and to share concerns. We want to give special thanks to all at the University Health Center and to all frontline workers in the UGA community for all your hard work! We are here to be of service and to help with communications from the university community to the administration; let us know how we can assist. This concludes the report from the COVID Response Committee.