

PRESIDENT RICHARDS COMMENTS – JANUARY 2022 MEETING

I want to take just a few moments to address COVID-19 on our campuses as the second semester is about to begin.

First, regarding Federal Executive Order 14042 and other federal requirements on COVID-19, and how these impact our public universities. As there are currently legal challenges pending, we will await further decisions by the courts before determining how to proceed at the Regents institutions.

Second, on campus operations. The current COVID-19 guidance from the Board for the fall 2021 semester remains in effect for the second semester and going forward. The campuses will continue to implement policies within the guidance provided and in conjunction with the Board Office.

We are all tired of COVID. But the single most important thing that anyone can do is get vaccinated. The COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. They overwhelmingly stop serious illness, hospitalization, and death. I've said this on numerous occasions, but I will say it once again: Get vaccinated.

We all need to use our common sense and take individual responsibility for managing our own health care.