



Updates for Registered Clubs and Organizations (RCOs)

January 12th, 2022

Dear RCO Leaders,

The information we are receiving for Spring 2022 is rapidly changing. Please read the below email for some important updates regarding club/organization activities. If there are any changes to club and organization activities, we will send a new message and add all our communication to [this website](#). As a reminder, please actively check the [DoYourPart](#) page for UC Merced's updates.

We thank you for a wonderful semester back to campus. The Office of Student Involvement (OSI) appreciates your patience, resiliency, and understanding with new campus policies and procedures that we all adapted to. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed.

Special shout out to Public Health Society, Phi Delta Epsilon, and Alpha Phi Omega for getting recognized by the Community Engagement Center for being an “outstanding” organization for their community service efforts!

OSI wants to make sure your organizations get recognized for all the great work you are doing, please fill out [this form](#) to have your organization featured by us. Our team will reach back out to you in January! If you know an individual that deserves recognition, please email studentinvolvement@ucmerced.edu.

Campus is continuing to monitor the situations with the Omicron and Delta COVID-19 variants. Leadership will continue to meet during this time periodically to provide faculty, staff, and students with decisions and updates. *All plans are subject to change based on emerging information.*

Below are some important updates for regarding the Spring 2022 semester:

- **[Spring 2022 Semester Return:](#)**
 - Classes will begin January 18th, with remote instruction through January 31st. There is a possibility that remote instruction could be extended based on COVID-related circumstances outside the university's control; we will notify campus by January 20th if that becomes necessary.
 - **COVID-19 booster shots are required** for faculty, staff and students as soon as they are eligible — generally, six months from the last vaccination. Everyone not yet eligible for boosters will be subject to testing on campus.
- **[California Face Covering Mandate:](#)** *Masks are required for all individuals in all indoor public settings, regardless of vaccination status from December 15, 2021 through January 15, 2022 (surgical masks or higher-level respirators are recommended).*
 - This applies to on-campus as well. Please make sure if you are returning to campus prior to the semester starting that you follow this statewide mandate.
 - Campus recommends surgical-style masks. You can pick them up from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at COB, Granite Pass, Fresno Center

and Downtown Campus Center.

- **International travel will be on hold until further notice.**
 - If your organization is planning any trips internationally, please contact hmontoya2@ucmerced.edu as soon as possible.
- **Planning Events:**
 - *The earlier you plan, the better OSI can support you!* Please contact the RCO team for support on planning your upcoming event. Reach out to hmontoya2@ucmerced.edu and clubsandorgs@ucmerced.edu. You may also review this website for [resources](#).
 - **No in-person events or gatherings can occur until January 31st, 2022.**
 - We encourage all RCOs with 50+ members to have their weekly meetings virtually.
 - OSI is gathering clarification on tabling, but for now please hold off on anything in-person until **January 31st, 2022**.
 - *No outside guests are allowed for social events at this time (including alumni)*
 - We anticipate the same policies we had for Fall 2021 events will roll over to Spring 2022. Please read the [Fall 2021 Events Memo](#) for more information.
 - Indoor events will be limited to no more than 50 guests
 - Serving food indoors should be avoided unless it is grab-and-go and not consumed at event
 - Face coverings are required for all participants for all indoor meetings/events regardless of vaccination status
 - Outdoor events of over 100 guests must be approved by a senior leader of your respective area
 - UC Merced students, staff and faculty who are fully vaccinated are not required to wear face coverings while attending outdoor events. However, all visitors must wear face coverings outdoors, whether they all full vaccinated or not.
 - Accurate attendee registration is required for all events to aid in contact tracing if needed
 - Guests may not enter University facilities if they have tested positive for COVID-19 or feel unwell
 - Any events your organization will be having from **November 19th, 2021 until February 14th, 2022** will need additional approval from Student Affairs leadership. Please email hmontoya2@ucmerced.edu to learn more about how to seek approval for your event.
 - A proposal will need to be submitted to OSI at least **2 weeks in advance**. Hayley Montoya, our Interim Assistant Director will support you with this proposal.
 - *General meetings are the only exclusion to the above approval.*
- **Transition Success and End of Year Report**
 - All registered clubs and organizations will need to complete the [Transition Success and End of Year Report](#) in order to remain recognized next academic year. Please make sure to review this document and start preparing to complete



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at the end of the term. *More information will come*, but the deadline to submit this will be **Sunday, May 6th, 2022 at 11:59pm.**

- **No Programming Week**
 - Finals week is always observed as a “no programming” week for all registered clubs and organizations. We want to make sure our RCOs have academic success. The upcoming No Programming Week will be **May 7th, 2022 to May 15th, 2022**. Please plan accordingly! *The only exception are academic/study events and general meetings.*
- **Rosters:**
 - Please make sure your officers are updating and checking rosters to reflect your accurate members. This should be done at the **beginning of the semester** and **end of the semester** at the minimum. RCOs are responsible updating their individual organization rosters.
 - If you have issues or need help, please reach out to our team at clubsandorgs@ucmerced.edu.
 - If you have any officers who are seniors and will be graduating Spring 2022, please make sure you update your organization’s officers by the last day of the semester, **May 13th, 2022**. All graduating/inactive students are removed from CatLife per the data feed we are receiving from IT and Registrar.
- **New Club Registration – Spring 2022**
 - If you or a friend is looking to start a new club or organization, [registration](#) begins **January 11th, 2022 to February 11th, 2022**.
 - Direct them to [this website](#) to help them begin this process.
 - If your organization registered in Fall 2021 – you will **NOT** need to register again. *Please just make sure all your officers/members have accepted their CatLife membership requests.*

Please regularly check the [do your part page](#) to stay updated with campus policies as it relates to knowing what to expect on-campus.

If you have any questions at all as it relates to your club or organization, please reach out to our [staff](#) for support! Stay safe & well! We thank you in advance for your flexibility as we start the Spring 2022 semester.

Warm Regards,
Office of Student Involvement Staff
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