January 18, 2022

Dear Faculty, GTAs and Teaching Staff:

Welcome to the start of the Spring 2022 semester at Colorado State University!

We know you want to deliver the best education and learning opportunities possible for your students, and we have heard from many students that they are excited to be back at CSU with you and their peers. As we begin this semester in-person amid the current Omicron surge, we are proceeding with great caution and concern. Our highest priority is to ensure the health of our entire Ram community while providing a top-quality educational experience.

We are asking everyone for their flexibility, patience and grace as we navigate the next few days/weeks. We have been planning for various levels of potential absenteeism and resource needs for faculty, staff and students. This flexibility might call for temporary shifting between in-person and virtual teaching, contingent upon Omicron impacts.

We will continue to provide frequent communication updates to our entire campus community to keep you informed of developments. In addition to following our COVID mandates, please help us by doing the following:

- **Consult with your department Chair/Head immediately** if you anticipate a need to temporarily move a class online (or need other flexible options for your teaching assignments)
- **Advise your students to regularly monitor their CSU email, Canvas or other platforms** you will use to communicate with them about any shifts in course delivery or other temporary class changes
- **Additional resources are being provided to support teaching during this time** (Consult with your department Chair/Head or Dean who can connect you with the Teaching Continuity & Recovery Team)
- **Please refer to these Spring 2022 Academic FAQs for Instructors** for information regarding remote work requests, student absenteeism, and other information
- **If you have not yet completed your mandated saliva screening, please do so as soon as possible**; schedule a screening at: [https://covid.colostate.edu/register-schedule-screening/](https://covid.colostate.edu/register-schedule-screening/)

*Rams Take Care of Rams* has become a proud mantra at CSU to reflect our goodwill and compassionate spirit. This community has continuously gone above and beyond for one another throughout this pandemic: faculty in support of students and their colleagues, students in support of their peers, and staff who have kept this institution’s business and service operations moving forward in support of
everyone. I am so deeply proud of this community, and trust you will continue to do your best for our students while ensuring your own well-being.

We are confident we have good public health requirements and contingency plans in place to mitigate the impacts of this latest phase of the pandemic. We are here for you, and know you are here for each other. Thank you for the support and grace you are providing to our entire community.

Sincerely,

Mary Pedersen
Provost and Executive Vice President