

Dear Campus Community,

I hope each of you had a healthy, safe, and joyful holiday season with family and friends and are ready for the new year. This is an update on protocols and guidelines the campus will be following for Spring Semester.

We are continuing our close monitoring of the public health situation and following the science to put protocols, procedures, and guidelines in place to ensure a safe and healthy campus environment. Given the current rapid spread of the Omicron variant, the City of Austin's return to Stage 4, and the <u>COVID-19 risk-based guidelines</u>, the University will adhere to the following:

- <u>ALL classes will begin remotely on Monday, January 10, 2022. In-person instruction will</u> resume on Monday, January 24, 2022.
- **Residence Halls will reopen as planned for move-in on Friday, January 7, 2022**. The Office of Residence Life will contact residential students directly to facilitate their return to campus.
- Students who have not yet picked up their Microsoft Surface should <u>reach out to HT Information</u> <u>Technology</u> to have a device sent to you.
- We will continue to use the <u>HT Ram Check mobile app</u> for access to campus. Please get in touch with the Safe & Healthy Rams coordinator for assistance at <u>safehealthyrams@htu.edu</u> and 512.505.3019.
- **Report any positive COVID-19 test results**, symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case on HT Ram Check.
- **Masks will continue to be required** in all indoor public and common spaces on campus and strongly encouraged outdoors when unable to physically distance.
- All students must have either a COVID-19 vaccination record or approved <u>exemption</u> on file with the University. Please submit documents to vaccinations@htu.edu.
- <u>Routine COVID-19 testing</u> and vaccination clinics will continue through the Spring semester.

Vaccination and booster shots remain a critical layer of protection and still our most powerful tools against COVID-19. Vaccinations plus booster shots are the best protections against hospitalization and symptomatic infection. Therefore, we continue to encourage vaccinations and boosters.

Please constantly monitor the <u>Safe & Healthy Rams site</u> for routine updates to our Campus Reactivation Plan. Our Campus Reactivation Plan is a living and dynamic document of all protocols and policies, guiding Huston-Tillotson University through this global pandemic and public health crisis. What remains paramount is the overall well-being of members of our campus community by maintaining safe and healthy living, learning, and teaching environments. Please reach out to the Safe & Healthy Rams office at <u>safehealthyrams@htu.edu</u> or 512.505.3019 with any questions.

In Union, we continue to find our Strength,

Olette Pierce Burnette

Colette Pierce Burnette, Ed.D. President & CEO