

Dear Faculty,

Planning of the Fall 2021 semester has been underway for quite some time for most of your departments. Students will begin registering for classes on April 5<sup>th</sup>, and we have freshmen First Step schedules being created now. With this in mind, we have made an important decision regarding how we will offer our courses this coming fall.

Using guidance from local and state public health experts, we are planning for Fall 2021 classes to be offered with classroom capacities back to normal, pre-pandemic numbers. This decision was not made lightly and is based on multiple factors. In addition to guidance from health experts, we have benchmarked what other Missouri and peer institutions are planning and participated in interactive discussions with the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development.

While this information and these interactions have made us confident enough to move forward in our fall planning, we also want to be clear that this decision is contingent upon the Cape Girardeau County Public Health and the State of Missouri guidelines. If county and state guidelines do not allow for normal capacities, we will revert back to the plans that are currently in place for the Spring 2021 semester.

The Summer schedule will remain as posted and planned. Fall classes will be offered in the normal formats we offered prior to the pandemic which include face-to-face, online, webinar, HyFlex, and blended. There would be no more Mixed 1-5 formats.

Thank you for your willingness to adapt in these unique times. We will do what we can to notify everyone as early as possible if there are any changes to this plan due to state and county guidelines.

Respectfully,

Mike



**/ Mike Godard, Ph.D.**

Provost

T 573.651.2063

[mgodard@semo.edu](mailto:mgodard@semo.edu)