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August 20, 2021

Dear Roadrunner faculty,

Welcome back to the Fall 2021 semester! In my new role as VPAA I'm getting a chance to meet many of you virtually or on campus, and I thoroughly enjoy every chance I have to engage with you. I wanted to take a moment to thank each of you for your incredible preparations over the course of the past several weeks and months to ready your classes to support student equity and success. My heartfelt appreciation also goes out to each of you who will be teaching face-to-face courses with our students this fall. We are already hearing student appreciation for the opportunity to be back in the physical environments on campus. I also wanted to thank our incredible classified professionals and other personnel who have done herculean work to prepare our facilities, services, and information resources for our more complete reopening. My hat goes off to each of you for your labor of love to prepare to serve our additional students who will be re-joining us on the ground this fall.

In the attached document you will find a few major highlights of useful information as you come back into the physical campus environment. Please read the details closely. Here are a few major items it covers:

- Requirements for all students/employees to wear masks indoors and outdoors
- Continued Physical Distancing
- Syllabus Statement related to COVID and face-to-face classes
- Hygiene/Cleaning of the campus facilities
- COVID-19 Reporting
 - Process if a student reports COVID related symptoms or tests positive
 - Process if an employee experiences COVID related symptoms or tests positive

Additionally, we thank you for your patience and compassion with your students, especially if they report COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result. I encourage you to be as flexible as possible with those students (for possible remote or make-up work) as they may need to navigate being sick and/or quarantining. Much more detailed information/guidance can be found on our website in the COVID-19 Workplace Guide and the COVID-19 Prevention Program and your deans can support you for anything you may need related to these situations.

Please also be aware that in their meeting on 8/18/21, the Río Hondo



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College Board of Trustees authorized President Dreyfuss to move forward with the processes to mandate vaccinations for all employees and students (accepting religious and medical exemptions where applicable). I want to acknowledge how difficult the pandemic has been for each member of our campus community, and recognize its long-lasting effects on each of us and our students. Please feel free to reach out to your deans, division support personnel, or Academic Affairs so that we can help you be successful. We are here to help you and your students have an excellent semester together. Thanks to the many folks who have reached out and given me a warm welcome to the Rio Hondo family. I look forward to joining you in the work this fall and meeting many more of you virtually and on the ground.

Sincerely,

Don Miller
Vice President, Academic Affairs, Rio Hondo College
President, California Community Colleges Chief Instructional Officers