

Whereas the University of Georgia's overriding consideration must be the creation and maintenance of the highest standards of safety for all faculty, students, and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Franklin Senate:

1. commends the USG for its July 7 decision to require masks on campus effective July 15 as a necessary measure to protect campus communities in Georgia from the dangers of the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Is cautiously encouraged by the announcement of plans for testing and contact tracing of individuals infected with COVID-19. The details of these plans must be shared at the earliest possible time, in order to solicit the concerns and ideas of faculty, students, and staff. USG, UGA, and Franklin College administration must provide clear, prompt, and accurate reports about positive test results to the entire campus community, including results obtained to date. These reports must include as much detail as possible, subject to reasonable safeguards for the privacy of the affected individuals. Furthermore, clear plans, appropriate to each campus sector (facilities, labs, academic buildings, etc.) for the protection of these individuals, and of the members of the campus community who have been exposed to them, must be formulated and made public at the earliest opportunity.
3. emphasizes that the risks of on campus exposure to COVID-19 are borne not only by UGA employees, but also by their family members. Furthermore, many UGA employees will face unresolvable issues of child care and other domestic responsibilities generated by the pandemic. Therefore, it is imperative that no staff, student, or faculty member be compelled to learn, teach, or work face-to-face this Fall. There must be no penalty, whether subtle or overt, for requesting primarily online-only engagement. This includes supervisor evaluations for faculty and staff and attendance grades for students. No medical documentation shall be required. Furthermore, no faculty or staff members shall be fired, laid off, or furloughed if they have a job that cannot be done remotely.
4. urges that all decision making related to campus COVID-19 policy shall include substantive representation and participation from faculty, staff, and students, chosen through the existing governing bodies that represent them.