Dear BioSci Faculty and PIs:

The 2020-2021 academic year will bring new graduate students and some undergraduates to campus. We are providing information about incorporating these students into the research under [Phase 2 Research RampUp](#).

The graduate programs have enrolled an unprecedented number of first-year Ph.D. students, many of whom will be seeking homes for rotations. We hope that you will consider hosting one or more of these students in your lab. Note, however, that these new students must fit into existing Phase 2 restrictions, including 30% on-site activity, physical distancing and sufficient PPE. If you plan to take one or more of these students, you do not need to alter your Phase 2 plan if you can fit them into it by (for example) extending the hours in the lab or modifying existing shifts. If you cannot accommodate them under your current Phase 2 plan but believe that you can expand your lab under the existing Phase 2 restrictions, feel free to submit a revised [Plan 2 form](#) for review and potential approval. This revised Plan should be submitted to UCI Review using the progress report function. To do so, access your approved application; press the progress report tab; upload your revised plan; and it will be appended to the end of your original application.

Registered undergraduates in Bio199, Bio198 or Bio197 will also be allowed in research labs. These students must also fit into current Phase 2 Research plans, and their inclusion is subject to approval by a review committee. For further information, please refer to the [Bio197-199 Phase 2 Request form](#). After reviewing the form, fill it out and follow the instructions. *Given the restrictions mandated for Phase 2 plans, we expect very few undergraduates to be involved in on-site research, and there must be a compelling case to do so.* Note, however, that remote (as opposed to on-site) undergraduate researchers do not require approval, because they will not affect 30% on-site activity levels.
As you consider an expansion of lab personnel, please keep these additional factors in mind. First, remember that volunteers are not allowed in research laboratories under the Phase 2 RampUp. Students must be enrolled and registered. Second, recognize that many new arrivals to campus have traveled far distances. For the safety of your lab group and others, we strongly encourage that you ask new personnel to self-quarantine for 14 days after their arrival and prior to engaging in any on site activities. Such quarantining is required for those arriving from some foreign countries. Third, all new arrivals must take the appropriate EH&S training prior to perform on-site research, including the COVID-19 training module. Finally, please remember that the safety of you, your group and your colleagues is the highest priority. Although COVID-19 cases have been declining in California, there are still many more new cases today than in June and nearly 100 documented cases at UCI thus far.

We are truly grateful for the wonderful spirit of cooperation of our School colleagues during these trying times, knowing that we share the same goals: to mentor students, to perform cutting-edge research and to do so safely.

Sincerely,

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