PaloAltoUniversity

December 17, 2021

Dear PAU Community,

As we prepare to close campus for the winter break, I want to thank all of you for your diligence in keeping our community healthy. As always, the safety of this community and supporting our students is of the utmost importance and continues to be at the forefront of our decisions. The rise in COVID cases, the Omicron variant, increased holiday travel and social gatherings, and winter weather poses a number of logistical challenges for the start of in-person classes, particularly for students.

We have decided to hold the first two weeks of winter quarter courses online in order to minimize disruptions to coursework and to support our community. Residential and Hyflex classes will resume in person starting the week of **January 24, 2022**. Students, if you have any questions, regarding accessing your course remotely, please reach out to your instructor. As a reminder, please review your winter quarter course schedule as PAU classes will be offered in one of the three modalities:

- Residential (course instruction is offered in person only)
- **Hyflex** (course instruction is delivered both in-person on campus and online at the same time by the same faculty member)
- WEB (course instruction is offered online only)

We want to extend our sincere appreciation to our residential and hyflex instructors for their flexibility in making this adjustment to the first two weeks of their courses. All resources to support instructors to teach remotely continue to be available and can be found on the MyPAU Faculty tab under Faculty Resources.

The university will reopen on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 with the continuation of our current COVID-19 campus protocols (completion of the daily health screening survey and indoor mask requirements). In order to continue keeping our community safe, we will limit in-person on campus gatherings till January 24, 2022 and all faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to get vaccinated, obtain a COVID-19 booster (if eligible and vaccinated), and/or take a COVID-19 test if traveling over the break.

We will continue to monitor the guidance provided by public health authorities and share any updates as they become available. Please enjoy the winter break and I look forward to welcoming you to a new year and winter quarter. Thank you all for continuing to balance the health and safety of our community while supporting our students' academic progress.

With PAU Pride,

Erika Cameron, Ph.D., NCC, ACS Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs