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Recommendations

Faculty Senate

10-11-2021

SR 21-22-04 EC

Marshall University Faculty Senate

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Recommended Citation

Marshall University Faculty Senate, "SR 21-22-04 EC" (2021). *Recommendations*. 1998.
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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION**

SR 21-22-04 EC

Recommends that the university mandate that all faculty, staff, and students receive the COVID-19 vaccine barring limited legal exceptions.

RATIONALE:

Cases of COVID-19 among members of our campus community pose an immediate public health threat. Moreover, outbreaks on the Marshall University campuses impact not only Marshall University but also the larger Huntington and South Charleston communities. As such, mandating the fully FDA approved COVID-19 vaccination for all faculty, staff, and students is pertinent to ensure public safety.

FACULTY SENATE CHAIR:

Christopher

APPROVED BY THE
FACULTY SENATE: _____

DATE: 09/30/2021

DISAPPROVED BY THE
FACULTY SENATE: _____

DATE: _____

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:

APPROVED: _____ DATE: _____

DISAPPROVED: *James G. Dillett* DATE: 10-11-2021

COMMENTS: *See my typed comments below - J. Dillett*

I appreciate the sentiment expressed in the recommendation of the Faculty Senate to require vaccines, and I thank the Faculty Senate for being concerned for the safety of the campus. I, too, am concerned for the safety and well-being of our faculty, staff, and students.

Currently, we are attempting to test all unvaccinated individuals each week, quarantine and isolate those exposed and testing positive, offer vaccines each week, and monitor the positivity rate. As of this writing on October 11, 2021, we have a 78.9% student vaccination rate, an 88.1% employee vaccination rate, and an 80.3% overall vaccination rate for the campus. The positivity rate of those tested has ranged from 1% to around 3%, and this is an overstatement of the overall campus positivity rate because the vast majority of those tested are the unvaccinated.

I believe that a vaccine mandate at this point is not necessary and would produce more harm than good in the pushback from those individuals who are strongly opposed to a mandate. I am confident that we are doing well without a mandate.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION**

SR 21-22-04 EC

NOTE: Recommendations should be sent to the Faculty Senate office via email. Recommendations longer than one page or those with attachments are to be sent in final format with this as a cover page. Any incomplete recommendations or those requiring extensive formatting changes will be returned to the recording secretary/committee.