September 22, 2021

Faculty Senate leadership at Iowa State University, the University of Iowa, and the University of Northern Iowa ask that the Board of Regents delegate authority over COVID prevention efforts, such as masking and social distancing, to the individual Regents institutions to the extent permitted by Iowa state law and consistent with CDC guidance.

With the emergence of multiple new COVID variants, the number of cases is increasing dramatically. Having the ability to respond rapidly to changing conditions will allow our universities to continue, where necessary, the mitigation efforts that have been shown to be highly effective in protecting our students, faculty, and staff. The discretion to manage local situations and unique conditions will allow the Regents universities to remain open and maintain the high-quality education for which they are well known.

Andrea Wheeler, Faculty Senate President
Iowa State University

Jon Perkins, Faculty Senate President-Elect
Iowa State University

James Mattingly, Chair of the Faculty
University of Northern Iowa

John Burnight, Faculty Senate Chair
University of Northern Iowa

Francis Degnin, Faculty Senate Vice-Chair
University of Northern Iowa

Teresa Marshall, Faculty Senate President
University of Iowa

Ana Rodriguez, Faculty Senate Vice-President
University of Iowa