Draft Statement of Guiding Principles

1. Our top priority is to protect the health and safety of our students, staff and faculty. Our primary objective is to safeguard the quality of our educational and research programs.

2. The UHS phased reopening plan will be dependent on state requirements and executive orders. We will also consider federal, city and county guidelines. Our decisions will be developed in consultation with faculty, staff and students, will be informed by reliable scientific data, inclusive of assessment of potential risks and our capacity to implement suitable mitigation measures.

3. Each university will develop a detailed implementation plan based on the overall system-level phased plan for reopening the UHS universities. Our operational plans will take into account the different internal and external conditions of the 4 universities.

4. Students, faculty and staff who have concerns about their own or others safety and well-being regarding the implementation of our reopening plan should consult with their supervisor and if they still have concerns or suspect non-compliance, they should utilize established grievance and complaint procedures including our hotline, Convercent, available online.

5. We will be prepared to restrict or close down activities based on changing circumstances and the assessment of local public health authorities relating to the levels of infections, hospitalization and testing capacity.

6. Units that are essential for our educational and research missions, and within which social distancing, protection and sanitization can be implemented most effectively, will be considered for priority reopening.

7. Our phased plan will allow for flexible implementation and suitable exemptions that take into account individual circumstances and family healthcare and education support needs.