Dear UT Dallas students, staff and faculty,

It is heartening to see COVID-19 vaccines being administered throughout North Texas. While supplies are still limited, it is important that our health care workers, first responders, and our most vulnerable community members are being protected.

As more vaccines are distributed across the country, we look forward to the day when we can all return to campus safely. To that end — and to help us gauge the numbers in our UT Dallas community who have already been vaccinated — our Office of Emergency Management and Continuity Planning encourages everyone who has received a COVID-19 vaccine to report their immunization status on our voluntary vaccine reporting form. This information will help us identify individuals still at risk of infection as we continue our testing and tracing efforts throughout the spring semester.

We have received a number of questions regarding whether UT Dallas will be administering vaccines to students and employees. At this time, we do not expect to be a vaccine provider, although we are working with our sister institution, UT Southwestern Medical Center — which is one of a number of hub providers in Texas — to vaccinate our health care providers and first responders who are part of the Texas Department of State Health Services priority categories 1A and 1B.

For other members of our community, if you meet the criteria of Phase 1A or 1B, you have two options to get the vaccine: You can be vaccinated at a large vaccine hub or at a local vaccine provider. Beginning in January, Texas established large vaccination sites or hubs around the state. The goal of these hubs is to provide more people the vaccine and a simpler way to sign up for an appointment. You can view vaccine providers across the state on the Vaccine Availability Map.
Please check the COVID-19 Vaccination Hub Provider List to find a hub near you, and learn how to register. You do not need to be a resident of a county to receive a vaccine in that county. Links to local county registration sites can be found on the Comets United page. Remember, vaccine supply is still limited in Texas, although more doses arrive each week. We encourage you to register in several places to optimize your opportunity to be vaccinated.

Continue to check the Comets United website for updates from UT Dallas. Continue to wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth; limit your interaction with others outside your circle; social distance; wash your hands frequently and thoroughly; and follow good health practices. We are hopeful that most of our community can be vaccinated by the end of summer and that our campus will slowly but surely return to normal operations. But it will take all of us — united — to accomplish that goal.

In the meantime, please stay safe and stay healthy.

Dr. Rafael Martín
Vice President and Chief of Staff