Memorandum

From: Faculty Welfare Committee

To: Faculty Senate

Re: Faculty who teach remotely but need to access campus facilities occasionally

The FWC recommends that the Administration work with the Faculty Senate to accommodate faculty who teach remotely but might need to access campus facilities occasionally to perform their job, live far away from campus, have mobility issues (e.g. blind, unable to drive), or have special health concerns. At present, these faculty members will have to come to campus in order to get tested for COVID 19 before they can use campus facilities. This requires an extra trip to campus, including interaction with staff involved in testing.

Accommodations could include collaboration with other USM institutions, so that tests could be taken there (or at alternative testing sites). Accommodations might also include exceptions to the testing requirement for occasional access at specific times. The reasoning is that visitors to campus do not have to be tested and faculty who come to campus occasionally have a similarly low impact on the campus health situation as visitors.

These accommodations would allow faculty, who teach remotely but who do not live close to campus, occasional access without the burden of traveling to campus for a test beforehand. The accommodations would apply to a very small number of faculty and we recommend the administration establish criteria, for example a faculty member has to live more than a one hour drive from campus, have a particular mobility issue or a significant health concern and not come in more than twice a month for more than four hours to be eligible for these accommodations.