July 7, 2020

Dear Deans,

As educators who have invested deeply in the success of our graduating students, we wish nothing more than to honor their achievements and to celebrate with them and their families; yet we cannot in good conscience participate in in-person Commencement exercises at this time.

We recognize that the university intends to follow state health and safety guidelines. Just because a choice is legal, however, does not make it wise. We cannot support an event that brings together hundreds of people and prompts travel by family members across the state and country, at a time when infections are rising to record highs each day.

In addition, we cannot support an event that obliges our professional and support staff colleagues to put at risk their health and the health of their families, for fear of risking their job.

It is therefore with regret, but considered resolve, that we decline the invitation to attend. We the undersigned faculty urge you to reconsider pursuing commencement at this time.

Arnaud Kurze, Assistant Professor, Department of Justice Studies John Luttropp, Professor, Art and Design Michael Viega, Assistant Professor, Cali School of Music David Witten, Professor, Cali School of Music Ethne Swartz, Professor, Department of Management Rich Wolfson, Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Robert Cart, Professor, Cali School of Music Gary Kleinman, Professor, Department of Accounting and Finance Ahmet Baytas, Professor, Department of Economics, Vanessa Greenwood, Professor, School of Communication and Media Elizabeth Wishnick, Professor, Department of Political Science and Law Francesca Laguardia, Associate Professor, Department of Justice Studies Fawzia Afzal-Khan, Professor, Department of English Hugh Curnutt, Associate Professor, School of Communication and Media Wendy Nielsen, Associate Professor, Department of English Johnny Lorenz, Professor, Department of English David Del Principe, Associate Professor, Department of Modern Languages & Literatures Lisa Anne Zilney, Associate Professor, Department of Justice Studies Lois Oppenheim, Professor, Department of Modern Languages & Literatures Katherine McCaffrey, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology Raul Galoppe, Associate Professor, Department of Spanish and Latino Studies Anthony Inciong, Associate Professor, Department of Art and Design Julia Landweber, Associate Professor, Department of History Harry W. Haines, Professor, School of Communication and Media Emily J. Klein, Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Marisa S. Trubiano, Associate Professor, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures

John Paul Wilson, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology Rebecca Goldstein, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Lisa Hazard, Associate Professor, Department of Biology Laura Nicosia, Professor, Department of English Julian Brash, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology Chris McKinley, Associate Professor, School of Communication and Media Erik Jacobson, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning (CEHS) Douglas Larkin, Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Victoria Puig, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Susan Baglieri, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Michele Knobel, Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Tarika Daftary-Kapur, Associate Professor, Department of Justice Studies Jessica Brater, Assistant Professor, Department of Theater and Dance Janet Ruane, Professor, Department of Sociology Jennifer Goeke, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Edina Renfro-Michel, Associate Professor, Department of Counseling Elaine Gerber, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology Enza Antenos, Assistant Professor, Department of Modern Languages Venezia Michalsen, Associate Professor, Department of Justice Studies Bree Picower, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Pascale LaFountain, Assistant Professor, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures David Trubatch, Associate Professor, Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics Nicole Panorkou, Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics Yi Luo, Associate Professor, School of Communication and Media Brian Abrams, Associate Professor, Cali School of Music Priya Lalvani, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Sumi Hagiwara, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Steven Greenstein, Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics Mayida Zaal, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Jack Gaynor, Professor, Department of Biology Minsun Shin, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Danné E. Davis, Associate Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Jonathan Howell, Associate Professor, Department of Linguistics Jeremy Price, Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Mary Boyle, Professor, Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders Emily Cheng, Associate Professor, Department of English Bill Sullivan, Professor, Department of Exercise Science & Physical Education Roberta Friedman, Associate Professor, School of Communication and Media Douglas Murray, Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition and Food Studies Lauren DInour, Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition and Food Studies

Antoinette Pole, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and Law John Specchio, Professor, Department of Nutrition and Food Studies Mark Hardy, Associate Professor, Department of Theatre and Dance Jennifer Yang, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology Reginia Judge, Associate Professor, Department of Justice Studies Mark Clatterbuck, Associate Professor, Department of Religion Dawn Marie Hayes, Professor, Department of History Yeon Bai, Professor, Department of Nutrition and Food Studies Jun Hierholzer, Associate Professor, Department of Art and Design Renata Blumberg, Assistant Professor, Department of Nutrition and Food Studies Lisa DeLorenzo, Professor, Cali School of Music Teresa Fiore, Professor, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Meena Mahadevan, Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition and Food Studies Julie Farnum, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology Jennifer Krumins, Associate Professor, Department of Biology Naomi Liebler, Professor, Department of English Christopher Matthews, Professor, Department of Anthropology Michael Robbins, Assistant Professor, Department of English Beth Sapiro, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work & Child Advocacy Marta López Luaces, Professor, Department of Spanish and Latino Studies John Soboslai, Assistant Professor, Department of Religion Patricia Matthew, Associate Professor, Department of English Jazmin Reves-Portillo, Assitant Professor, Department of Psychology Jennifer Pardo, Professor, Department of Psychology James Campanella, Professor, Department of Biology Lise Raven, Associate Professor, Filmmaking BFA Benjamin Lapp, Associate Professor, Department of History Cecilia Wagner Ricci, Professor, Department Accounting and Finance Valentin Soto, Assistant Professor, Department of Spanish, and Latino and Latin American Studies Daniel Mengara, Associate Professor, Department of Modern Languages & Literatures Lauren Carr, Associate Professor, Art & Design A. Seddik Meziani, Professor, Department of Accounting & Finance Debbie Saivetz, Associate Professor, Department of Theatre and Dance Art Simon, Professor, Department of English Lise Raven, Associate Professor, School of Communication and Media Debra Otte, Associate Professor, Department of Theatre and Dance Amanda Birnbaum, Professor, Department of Public Health Jaime Grinberg, Professor, Department of Educational Foundations Alina Reznitskaya, Professor, Department Of Educational Foundations Joan Ficke, Professor, Department of Exercise Science and Physical Education

Kristin Scrabis-Fletcher, Associate Professor, Department of Exercise Science and Physical Education Robert Gilbert, Associate Professor, Department of Exercise Science and Physical Education Tamara Leech, Associate Professor, Department of Public Health Lyndal Khaw, Associate Professor, Department of Family Science and Human Development Brad van Eeden-Moorefield, Professor, Department of Family Science and Human Development Kathleen Bauer, Professor, Department of Nutrition and Food Studies Lisa Lieberman, Professor, Department of Public Health Angela Sheely-Moore, Associate Professor, Department of Counseling Jessica Restaino, Professor, Department of Writing Studies Jonathan Caspi, Professor, Family Science & Human Development Monica Taylor, Professor, Department of Educational Foundations Soyoung Lee, Associate Professor, Department of Family Science and Human Development David Middlemas, Professor, Department of Exercise Science and Physical Education Peter Hosick, Assistant Professor, Department of Exercise Science & Physical Education Kathleen Loysen, Associate Professor, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Michael Hannon, Assistant Professor, Department of Counseling Vanessa Alleyne, Associate Professor, Department of Counseling Mary Jo John, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health Doreen Liou, Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition & Food Studies Alicia Broderick, Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning Olena Nesteruk, Associate Professor, Department of Family Science and Human Development Tony Pemberton, Associate Professor, School of Communication and Media