I. Background

As vaccines against COVID-19 are increasingly available to broad segments of society and federal, state and local public health agencies continue to issue guidance aimed at allowing for great interaction, the University believes that it is appropriate to allow for the return of visitors inside campus facilities and buildings.

The University believes that this policy strikes a reasonable and appropriate balance between maintaining an environment that aims to minimize the potential transmission of COVID-19 while allowing for indoor visits that serve legitimate business and educational purposes. This policy has been informed by guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state and city public health agencies concerning activities that vaccinated individuals may undertake.

II. Effective and End Dates of Policy

This revised policy shall take effect on Monday, May 24, 2021, and it shall remain in place until repealed or modified by the University.

III. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, and consistent with current guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state and city public health agencies, an individual is considered “fully vaccinated against COVID-19” two weeks after they have received (i) their second shot of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or (ii) their shot of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

For purposes of this policy, a “visitor” is someone other than an employed faculty or staff member, an enrolled student or individuals exempt from this policy pursuant to Section VI below.

IV. Visitors

Under this policy, visitors may enter University facilities and buildings if they have been invited by a faculty or staff member or a student of the University. As of the effective date of this policy, state and city public health guidelines, requirements or protocols indicate that, in work and business settings, individuals fully vaccinated against COVID-19 should not interact indoors with unvaccinated individuals, unless the unvaccinated individuals are wearing face coverings and practicing social distancing.
In order to comply with the foregoing in the most practical, efficient and non-disruptive manner, it is the policy of the University that all individuals in its facilities and buildings must wear face coverings and practicing social distancing, unless it is known to all in any particular indoor interaction that everyone has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. If there is doubt or uncertainty, such as when individuals are in common areas, then face coverings should be worn and social distancing practiced.

As a corollary to this, anyone who has not received or does not wish to receive the vaccine must adhere to all applicable guidelines, requirements or protocols established by state or city public health authorities, as the same may exist from time to time. Until this policy is again revised or rescinded, this means that unvaccinated visitors must wear face coverings and practice of social distancing in all indoor settings.

Nothing in this policy is intended to limit or restrict the ability of any vaccinated visitor from wearing a face covering and practicing social distancing as they deem appropriate.

V. Exemptions

This policy does not apply to visits to campus by (i) athletes engaged in competition against University sports teams, as such visits are approved and managed by the Department of Athletics pursuant to their policies, and (ii) non-employees and non-students of the University seeking access to the Moffett Campus, as such visits are approved and managed pursuant to Moffett campus specific policies.

VI. Reservation of Rights

The University reserves the right, without prior notice or consultation, to terminate or suspend this policy and to make, as it deems necessary, modifications to this policy, and any such decision by the University shall take immediate effect upon publication.