

# COALITION FOR ACADEMIC JUSTICE



## Press Release

## For: Immediate Release

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Tucson, Ariz., - An [open letter](#) (petition) regarding the University of Arizona administration's reentry plan, signed by more than 1,200 graduate students, staff, faculty, and other supporters will be hand-delivered tomorrow to President Robert Robbins. The letter states that Robbins' plan "fails to require compliance with public health mitigation efforts, specifies that 50% of courses be offered face-to-face, and invites thousands of students to come on campus for classes, activities, and dormitory living." Signatures were gathered in less than five days.

Provost Liesl Folks sent campus employees an [e-mail](#) yesterday, stating that face-to-face classroom activities will be phased in through three stages. The provost's statement did not address other non-classroom campus activities. The CAJUA finds the phased reentry plan announced by Folks to be incomplete and vague. Many UA workers and students report being confused by campus re-entry plans.

Members of the CAJUA will hand deliver the open letter to President Robbins' office on campus at Old Main at 9:15 am, Thursday, July 30.

University administrators have focused on the re-entry plan and bringing students back to campus because they say students want to come back to campus and because of looming budgetary shortfalls.

The administration's approach to financial challenges has UA employees shouldering the burden because of projected losses in revenue related to COVID-19 and an existing shortfall. However, at least two weeks ago, faculty from the UA Eller College of Management shared a plan with the senior leadership team, which proposes using other tools aside from pay cuts and layoffs. Top administrators have yet to acknowledge Eller's plan (see attached) publicly. Members of the CAJUA

find the Eller College's plan to be more compassionate and humane than the UA administration's plan.

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