

ST MARY'S COLLEGE *of* MARYLAND

The National Public Honors College

**ST. MARY'S COLLEGE
OF MARYLAND**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OPEN SESSION

**St. Mary's College of Maryland
Glendening Annex
St. Mary's City, MD**

April 26, 2021

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND
OPEN SESSION**

AGENDA

April 26, 2021 (#694)
12:30 p.m.

*Virtual
St. Mary's College of Maryland
St. Mary's City, Maryland*

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|-------------|--|-------------------------|
| I. | Call to Order | Lex Birney |
| II. | Approval of agenda | Lex Birney |
| III. | Action Items | President Jordan |
| | A. Action Item 2021-26: Approval of Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccines for Students,
Faculty and Staff | |
| IV. | Motion to Adjourn Meeting | Lex Birney |

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND
SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 26, 2021
ACTION ITEM 2021-26**

MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINES FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The President recommends that the Board of Trustees authorizes the College to mandate that all students, faculty, and staff who will be on-campus beginning Fall 2021 be vaccinated against COVID-19 with appropriate exemptions granted for medical and religious reasons.

RATIONALE

Since the declaration of the global pandemic, St. Mary's College has implemented a vast number of policies, practices, and guidelines to mitigate the on-campus spread of coronavirus SARS-2, a novel coronavirus that has infected more than 32 million individuals and resulted in the death of 568 thousand people in the US alone. According to data on the CDC website, individuals between the ages of 18 – 34 years old have the highest infectivity rate. This, in combination with data showing that adults >55 years of age have the highest death rate upon infection, presents a tenuous situation for a residential college such as SMCM, one that prides itself on the close student-faculty interactions and personal attention provided by our staff. The Board has the responsibility for the "care, control, and management of the College." Md. Code Ann., Educ. Sec.14-404(b). Data indicate the safety and efficacy of the currently available, EUA vaccines and suggests that they will receive FDA approval within the coming months. Mandating the COVID-19 vaccine is reasonable and necessary to control COVID-19 and prevent campus outbreaks beginning in Fall 2021.