Attached is emergency Senate resolution 87-21, “Encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations in our community for a safe return to in-person classes in fall 2021,” which the Senate passed at their May 5, 2021 meeting.

I have reviewed the resolution and support the Senate’s interest in encouraging members of the Michigan Tech community to receive COVID-19 vaccinations. Your email to the campus community on Thursday, May 6, 2021 recommends that all employees and students receive a COVID-19 and other vaccines. In addition, the Dean of Students website now lists the COVID-19 vaccination among those that are highly recommended for students.

As a resolution, this Senate document requires neither approval nor declination. Therefore, I recommend that you simply acknowledge receipt of the document.
DATE:      May 6, 2021
TO:       Richard Koubek, President
FROM:    Samuel Sweitz
          University Senate President
SUBJECT:  Emergency Resolution 87-21
COPIES:  Jacqueline E. Huntoon, Provost & Senior VP for Academic Affairs

This memo is being sent as an item of information. At its meeting on May 5, 2021, the University Senate approved Emergency Resolution 87-21, “Encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations in our community for a safe return to in-person classes in fall 2021.”
The University Senate of Michigan Technological University

Emergency Resolution 87-21

Encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations in our community for a safe return to in-person classes in fall 2021

Introduced by: Mark Rudnicki (chair for Administrative Policy Committee); Co-Sponsors: Caryn Heldt (Department of Chemical Engineering), David Dixon (Director of Biological Laboratory Operations), Carsten Külheim (College of Forest Resources and Environmental Science)

COVID-19 vaccine supply is finally surpassing demand and many of our students, staff and faculty have received their first or both doses of any of the three currently approved COVID-19 vaccines. However, there remains some hesitancy by some to get vaccinated. This hesitancy could cause a delay in reaching herd immunity in our community and could endanger in-person instructions in the fall semester.

The following text is adopted from the University of Michigan faculty’s senate assembly resolution passed on April 19, 2021.

Thus,

Whereas, the University Senate of Michigan Technological University affirms the value of an in-person residential experience at Michigan Technological University.

Whereas, the University Senate of Michigan Technological University supports the safe return of all students, faculty, and staff to in-person campus activities in the Fall 2021 semester as is reasonably practicable and permissible by state regulations.

Whereas, the University Senate of Michigan Technological University feels that there is a need to protect the community surrounding our University, particularly those most vulnerable and/or unable to themselves receive a vaccination.

Therefore, Be it

Resolved, the University Senate of Michigan Technological University supports COVID-19 vaccinations for all students, faculty, and staff.

Resolved, the University Senate of Michigan Technological University supports mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for those students, faculty, and staff living in on-campus housing which is subject to state and federal guidelines.