HEALTH AND SAFETY PLANS FOR THE SUMMER STUDY

Protocols:

1. Attendees must show proof of vaccination at check-in. All unvaccinated attendees will be required to take a COVID antigen test on site as part of the registration process.

2. All attendees are requested to do a self-test (e.g., antigen test) no more than 36 hours before they arrive and take a picture of the test result. At check-in, attendees must first go to the “Health and Safety” desk and show us the picture of their negative test. A test result from a lab no more than 36 hours before arrival is also acceptable. For those unable to do this, we will have tests available for attendees to self-test on site; please allow extra time for registration if you will be doing your test at registration. For those who are unable to attend due to a positive COVID test (attendees will be allowed to take two tests to confirm), we will refund your registration fee after the conference.

3. Attendees must wear masks indoors (unless eating/drinking/presenting). If an attendee does not bring their own mask or misplaced it, ACEEE will have additional masks on hand. We are enlisting ACEEE staff to help remind people to put their masks on if they see any attendees not wearing them or not wearing them properly. We will assess health guidance just before the conference and may recommend masking outdoors at social events where attendees are near each other.

4. Attendees experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (as defined here by the CDC) must take a COVID test. If an attendee tests positive twice, the attendee will be asked to leave the conference and will be given a prorated refund.

Other on-site prevention measures:

1. Meals – Additional tables will be set up in the picnic grove and other areas for outside eating. Outside eating will be encouraged with compostable take-out containers provided. In addition, a separate entrance/exit in the Crocker Dining Hall for those who choose to eat outside will be made available.

2. Meeting rooms – Seating in meeting rooms will be spaced out more than normal. For smaller or underground meeting rooms, outside seating will also be provided as an option with the presentations amplified on speakers. Doors and windows will be left open for better air circulation. Signs reminding attendees to wear masks will be hung in all meeting rooms as well.

3. Hand sanitizer – Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the conference grounds.

4. Daily push notifications – We will utilize the conference app to send daily (morning) notifications reminding attendees to wear their masks indoors and to pick up a COVID test any time if they feel they have any concerning symptoms.

5. Testing mid-conference – We encourage participants to do a rapid COVID test (which we will provide) on Wednesday. This is long enough that infections following travel will generally show. This testing will minimize potential COVID spread at the aquarium event that night. Anyone with two positive tests will be asked to not attend conference events and will receive a prorated refund.

6. Broadcast sessions – We will broadcast and record all three plenaries and 10 additional sessions to a virtual audience who may not be comfortable attending in person.

7. Medical facilities/ doctors in the area – We will have a list of doctors/medical facilities that offer Paxlovid or other treatments for anyone who may need outside medical treatments for COVID.