HEALTH AND SAFETY PLANS FOR THE SUMMER STUDY

Protocols:

1. All attendees will be required to show proof of a negative COVID test, taken in advance (encouraged) or upon arrival. They must first go to the “Health and Safety” desk (outside the Surf and Sand building) before they can collect registration materials.

2. For attendees who provide proof of vaccination, we will accept a copy or photo of a negative home or lab test taken within 36 hours of arrival. If they do not have a copy of a negative test result and proof of vaccination, we will require an on-site test, provided by ACEEE. Please allow extra time to register if you need on-site testing.

3. Those who test positive will generally not be able to attend the conference and will receive a full registration refund. (ACEEE will provide two tests to confirm results.) We will make an exception for those who test positive but have a doctor’s note indicating they are no longer contagious.

4. Attendees must wear masks indoors except when eating, drinking, or presenting. If an attendee does not bring a mask, ACEEE will have an additional supply. We are enlisting ACEEE staff to remind people to put their masks on and wear them properly. We will assess health guidance just before the conference and may recommend masking outdoors at crowded social events.

5. Attendees experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (as defined here by the CDC) must take a COVID test. Those with two positive test results will be asked to leave the conference and will receive 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 on Wednesday (we will have some test kits available). This testing will minimize potential COVID spread at the aquarium event that night. Anyone with two positive tests will be asked not to 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.