

Template:

Department-level Remote Petition

*This document is a template for GE organizers (GTFF stewards or any GE) to circulate to GEs within your departments as a tactic for pressuring your respective Deans (and Department Chairs) to approve more requests to go remote.

*Doing this as soon as possible will help preempt situations where GEs' requests are denied or otherwise not approved (e.g., not replied to).

*In order to collect signatures for such a petition, you can make a Google Form or send around an email requesting others to email you back if they approve. If you make a Google Form, it is recommended that the content of the form be the body of your petition. And the questions should be simple: do you sign on? 'Yes' or 'no'; provide your name as it will be listed in the delivered petition: 'your name here.'

Template Petition:

Subject: "We're Calling on You—Petition for Remote Instruction and Work"

To: **[Dean and/or your department chair]**

CC: **[organizing@gtff.net and your department stewards]**

Petition Body:

We, the undersigned and GEs of **[you department]**, are writing to you in a time of great concern for the health and safety for all members of our community. **We have submitted requests to go remote in instruction following Provost Phillips's Winter Term Update.** Due to the time sensitivity of the current surge, we require a timely response to our requests. **We [demand/ask]¹ you to immediately approve our requests to provide remote instruction and otherwise conduct our GE work remotely.**

We recognize that Provost Phillips's Winter Term Update places considerable discretion to you in making the call to protect us and our students from the dangerous current surge in COVID transmission. This gives you invaluable power to make the situation safer for everyone in **[your**

¹ When drafting your petition from this template, decide the language here that you find most strategic! Consider the temperature of GEs in your department and your department chair's and dean's past helpfulness toward GEs (or lack thereof). **Most important is getting a petition circulated to GEs, starting conversations around it, and SENDING it out!** (And delete this footnote once circulating your petition!)

department], including its students, GEs, faculty, other employees, and all of our dependents. Our request extends to cover non-instructional GEs and others whose work, when applicable, need not be in-person. These people are not directly covered under the Provost Phillips's Winter Term Update in the same way as instructors (both faculty and GEs) are, but the virus does not abide by formal categories such as those.

We are calling on you to do the right thing for all members of our UO community and approve requests for temporary remote teaching and GE work. We are looking to you to lead the UO to a safer situation while this COVID transmission surge occurs.

The Undersigned
[names listed below]