Background and Findings

Numerous wildfires burn throughout the state. On August 18, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a state of emergency in California due to fires burning statewide. As of this date, UC Santa Cruz remains impacted by the wildfires burning in Santa Cruz County and elsewhere in Northern California. Residents of the mountain communities surrounding UC Santa Cruz were forced to evacuate their homes in the face of the Lightning Complex Fires ignited last week by a dry lightning storm.

On August 20, 2020, CAL FIRE issued a mandatory evacuation order for the UC Santa Cruz residential campus, which was lifted today. However, emergent conditions exist on the campus that continue to pose a threat of serious injury to persons and have damaged property because of the Lightening Complex Fires. While containment of the Lightening Complex Fires improves, the fires continue to actively burn thousands of acres across inaccessible terrain with modest resources. As this tragic event continues to unfold extraordinary measures are required immediately to alleviate and repair damage to and to maintain the orderly operation of the residential campus.

On August 20, 2020, I declared a state of emergency to exist on the UC Santa Cruz properties located at the: residential campus, Coastal Science Campus, and Westside Research Park. I hereby modify and replace the previous order as set forth below.

Chancellor’s MODIFIED Order

WHEREFORE, AS CHANCELLOR OF THE UC SANTA CRUZ CAMPUS, I DECLARE A STATE OF EMERGENCY TO EXIT ON THE FOLLOWING UC SANTA CRUZ LOCATIONS:

- Residential Campus, except faculty and staff housing at Laureate Court, Hagar Court, Ranch View Terrace, Hagar Meadow and Cardiff Terrace.
- Coastal Science Campus
- Westside Research Park.

I FURTHER DECLARE:

- These areas REMAIN closed, except for faculty and staff housing expressly identified above.
- Except as stated herein, consistent with the authority under California Penal Code Section 409.5, UC Santa Cruz Police Department will close the residential campus for the duration of this order to any and all persons not authorized to enter or remain. Anyone not authorized to enter or remain at any of these facilities is subject to arrest and/or emergency suspension, until such time this declaration is rescinded.

This MODIFIED order is effective immediately until further notice.

Cynthia Larive
Chancellor