

**Office of the Provost and
Vice President for Academic Affairs**

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Dear University Community,

The University has been closely monitoring the developments related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) in conjunction with the Illinois and Chicago Department of Public Health. We have developed a task force to evaluate the impact on our international study abroad and potential impact on our instruction and operations. The health and well-being of all members of the campus and community is our number one priority.

The task force is reviewing the University wide emergency preparedness plan and reviewing information from outside experts as to how the virus may affect our campus and community. It is important to note that there are only 3 cases in Illinois and none have been identified on the south side of Chicago. We currently do not have any students studying abroad. We are closely monitoring conditions in countries where faculty and/or students may travel. No travel has been cancelled at this time but we are defining contingency plans.

It is important to update you on the steps that each of us can take to protect the health and wellness of our campus. Maintaining good respiratory and hand hygiene are critical.

Tips for Good Hygiene

Respiratory hygiene: If you do sneeze or cough, please use a handkerchief or your elbow sleeve. Coughing or sneezing into your hands can future spread germs.

Hand Hygiene: Wash your hands with soap and warm water frequently especially if you have been around individuals who have been coughing or sneezing. Use hand sanitizer throughout the day especially when in contact in a number of individuals.

We encourage any student, faculty or staff who is not feeling well with flu-like symptoms to stay home and take necessary precautions. This is still the flu season. The Center for Disease Control has posted a list of precautions to avoid the spread of the coronavirus which can be found here. Our Health and Wellness Center will be posting additional information across campus.

As we are approaching spring break soon, we would like to caution the Chicago State University community to be mindful about their travel choices. We will continue to communicate with students, their families , faculty and staff about this unexpected health concern and take whatever steps necessary to promote the health and well-being.

Sincerely,

Zaldwaynaka Scott
President

Leslie Roundtree
Interim Provost