

Feb. 20, 2020

To: **MSU Students, Faculty and Staff**

From: **David Weismantel, M.D., M.S.**
University Physician, MSU

Denise B. Maybank, Ph.D.
Vice President and Associate Provost for Student Affairs and Services

Subject: **Update to campus on coronavirus**

Dear Spartan community:

The university has assembled a task force that meets regularly to monitor the spread of the new coronavirus from its place of origin in Wuhan, China. The task force now has recommended all university-sponsored travel to China, Singapore and Hong Kong be suspended for students, faculty and staff through July 31, 2020. This suspension takes effect today and includes all study abroad programs in those countries and regions.

Additionally, we have heard from members of our community who are concerned about the coronavirus. Please know that we hear your concerns and that your risk of being exposed on campus is extremely low.

There are no confirmed cases today on campus, or even in Michigan. Moreover, it is highly unlikely that any MSU faculty, staff, student, or visitor has recently returned from China without mandatory quarantine for up to 14 days by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or state health department.

MSU will continue to pay close attention to this developing issue, as we would with any infectious disease, to ensure the safety and welfare of our students, faculty, staff, scholars and visitors. The University Physician and the Office of International Health and Safety at Michigan State University continue to closely monitor the outbreak with the assistance and guidance of local, state and federal partners.

And while MSU leaders remain vigilant in monitoring coronavirus disease 2019, abbreviated COVID-19, remember that there are many international students impacted by this outbreak, with family, friends and loved ones in affected regions. Difficult and stressful times underscore the importance of coming together as Spartans. They provide us an opportunity to support one another, and this outbreak is no different.

As Spartans, we value inclusivity. We welcome students, scholars, faculty and staff from all parts of the world. We take pride in the diverse perspectives that move our community and the world forward. And we will continue to live those values today, tomorrow and into the future.

To keep our campus community informed, we've established a page on our website to provide our community with up-to-date information on the coronavirus and resources to keep ourselves and one another safe. Visit msu.edu/coronavirus to learn more.

Thank you.