
Subject: COVID-19 Update: March 5, 2020

Date: Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 4:21:56 PM Eastern Standard Time

From: President Lugo

To: All-faculty-staff, AllStudents

Dear Students, Faculty, Staff and Families,

As we continue to prioritize the health and well-being of our community, I am writing to keep you updated on Queens' preparedness regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19).

To be clear, there have been no reported cases within the campus community.

All campus activities including classes, on-campus events, reunion, and athletic events are going on as scheduled. We will continue to monitor the situation and update our [dedicated webpage](#) if the status of any of these activities changes.

In order to remain vigilant, here are some things the university has done:

1. We have activated our Emergency Operations Team (EOT). The EOT is creating plans and closely monitoring information released by the World Health Organization, the U.S. Department of State, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and other key organizations. Based on this information, the EOT is prepared to implement appropriate plans should the virus surface on campus or impact any Queens activity.
2. We have created a [dedicated webpage](#) that will be updated with pertinent information as it pertains to the university, including the current status of university events and activities.
3. We are in regular communication with all students and faculty currently studying abroad. We have recalled students who were studying in Italy. As instructed, they will self-quarantine for 14 days, and follow all re-entry requirements by the CDC and the U.S. Department of State. They are not currently on campus. We still have several students studying in countries with no current alerts or travel advisories. We also have two spring break faculty-led study trips returning on Sunday, also from countries with no travel alerts.

Here is how we can work together:

1. If you have traveled to any of the areas impacted by the COVID-19 epidemic and are experiencing symptoms, go directly to an emergency room for testing and to seek treatment.
2. If you are returning to campus after traveling outside of North Carolina during the past couple weeks, including spring break travel, [please report all domestic and international travel to Queens by using this form](#). This is a critical step to helping Queens and our surrounding health agencies monitor the situation.
3. For any future travel, be sure to check for [travel advisories](#) regularly – restrictions change rapidly, and new restrictions may be enacted with no advance notice. Please check the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) website](#) for the most up-to-date information. In our continuing effort to safeguard the well-being of our community, the Senior Leadership Team and EOT will, of course, reserve its right to cancel and/or advise against any future Queens sponsored or related travel, exercising our best judgment in light of the changing circumstance and government advisories.
4. The best way to prevent the spread of the virus is by practicing good preventative hygiene including wash your hands, avoid touching your face, cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, and stay home if you are sick.

We appreciate your patience, understanding and vigilance as we navigate this unprecedented and developing situation. Please be sure to regularly check the [dedicated webpage](#) for up-to-date information. Email or text alerts will be sent to notify you of changes.

Be well and stay safe,

President Lugo