



**TO: UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY**

**FROM: ROBERT DAVIS, ED.D.**

**PATRICIA TETREAU**

***(HEALTH AND SAFETY)***

**RE: UNIVERSITY RESPONSE TO 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS**

**FEB. 6, 2020**

Dear Members of the University Community,

Health agencies around the world are closely monitoring the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV), which was first identified in December 2019 in the city of Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. While there are individual cases in the United States, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that the "...virus is NOT currently spreading in the community in the United States."

The Incident Management Team and Student Health Services are following an established protocol by monitoring the national and regional situation. This includes acting on recommendations and guidance from the CDC and Pennsylvania Department of Health. **To date, there are no confirmed cases in Pennsylvania, and the likelihood of an outbreak on our campus remains low.**

Nevertheless, it is the flu season and we wanted to communicate ways in which you can prevent the spread of all viruses on campus. Here are a number of actions the

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Get a flu vaccine.

More information about 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) can be found on the website of the [CDC](#) and [Student Health Services](#).

The University will continue to monitor the situation, and update you if the circumstances surrounding the current situation change.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Davis, Jr., Ed.D.

Vice President for Student Life

Patricia Tetreault

Vice President for Human Resources