

From: Rogers, Patricia L

Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 7:23 AM

To: LSC-Campus-Employees <LSC-Campus-Employees@lsc.edu>; LSC-Student Senate <senate@lsc.edu>; LSC-Campus-Students <LSC-Campus-Students@lsc.edu>

Subject: Corona Virus Update

Colleagues and Students:

We have received many inquiries regarding LSC's response to the COVID-19 or Novel Corona Virus. Yesterday, we published additional resources provided by Minnesota State system office (see resources below) in the LSC newsletter and will also place that information on our website. Please be aware that Vice-Presidents Dan Fanning, Al Finlayson, Hanna Erpestad and I are in communication with the Minnesota State system office, as well as other colleges and universities in the region, the City of Duluth and local healthcare providers.

To ensure the health and safety of our staff and students, Minnesota State Chancellor Devinder Malhotra has suspended all Minnesota State related international travel, effectively immediately, which includes study abroad programs and any other activities faculty, staff, and students:

“Given the risks associated with COVID-19, and out of abundance of caution, I have exercised the discretion, available to me under System Procedure 5.19.3, Travel Management, Part 10, subpart f, to suspend all Minnesota State -related international travel effective immediately. This includes study abroad programs, and any other activities involving faculty, staff, and students.” – Chancellor Malhotra

At this point, the Chancellor's office and other system officials are monitoring reports and taking guidance/recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. State Department, and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and will be reviewing action on a recurring basis.

We all continue to monitor the situation very carefully and will provide updates as they become available. In the meantime, Minnesota State system has suggested the following resources:

- Information that MDH is making available for schools, colleges and universities is available at <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools.html>.
- **At this time, MDH assesses the risk of becoming sick with COVID-19, including for people in Minnesota schools, as low, and is not recommending that events or extracurricular activities be cancelled. To date, there have been no positive cases of COVID-19 reported at any Minnesota State college or university or at the system office.**
- We encourage students and employees to:

- Practice [respiratory \(coughing and sneezing\) etiquette](#) and [hand hygiene](#)
- Stay at home when sick
- **We encourage supervisors and faculty to offer flexibility to employees and students who are sick, expressing symptoms of respiratory issues, or care for family members to the maximum extent possible.**
- Be aware that anyone in the U.S. who has not traveled to China or been in contact with someone confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 in the last 14 days is at low risk of becoming sick with the virus
- **Be mindful and respectful; avoid all on actions and language against anyone based on race, ethnicity, or religion based on the origins of COVID-19.**

Other Informational Resources: There are many sources of information on COVID-19 including state, national and international organizations. Primarily sources for Minnesota State monitoring, planning, and response are:

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH):

COVID-19

Home: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>

For schools: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

COVID-19 Home: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Travel: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

State Department (DOS):

Travel Information:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations.html>

Patricia L. Rogers, Ph.D.
President
Lake Superior College



Your destination for SUCCESS!