



COLLEGE OF  
**MOUNT SAINT VINCENT**

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

To: Faculty, Administration, Staff and Students

From: Charles L. Flynn, President

Date: March 9, 2020

Subject: Update regarding Coronavirus Disease. COVID-19,

I am writing to update you with the current information and to brief you on the status of our planning efforts regarding any potential outbreak of the Coronavirus and any directives educational institutions may receive from state or federal agencies over the days and weeks ahead.

The College has been in regular, daily communication with our student who was exposed in late February. S/he remains self quarantined as directed by his/her employer. *I am happy to report that as of this morning he/she continues to be well and has no symptoms of the Coronavirus.* The College will continue to be in contact with him/her during the remainder of the self quarantine and will continue to keep the College community informed of any pertinent developments.

Last week, the College expanded its cleaning protocols for the entire campus, hiring additional temporary staff, purchasing new stronger disinfectants, and reviewing cleaning processes with current and new maintenance staff. The staff is cleaning public touch points and surfaces in residence halls. The staff is cleaning public touch points and surfaces in all classrooms, the dining hall and fitness center, bathrooms and the administrative areas. Hand sanitizers are being placed at the entry points to all buildings. While these measures are comforting, they are no substitute for continuing to follow guidance including thorough, frequent hand washing, coughing or sneezing into a tissue or elbow, and staying home if not feeling well. Anyone who has had direct contact with someone who tests positive for the Coronavirus is obligated to report that information to Human Resources or the Student Affairs office immediately for further guidance.

We are developing contingency plans for faculty and students should circumstances require the College to move classes online. At this point, we do not anticipate this necessity; however, we will be prepared for circumstances that may require us to do so. The Provost will distribute detailed information to all faculty shortly. Internships, practicum placements and clinical site locations are coming to their own judgements regarding the continuation of such arrangements, and we are working with them individually to ensure our students' needs are met. Were classes to move online, the College's administrative offices will remain open.

Out of an abundance of caution, all campus events of more than 60 people are being postponed, effective immediately. In addition, like other campuses around the nation, we are cancelling all spring break travel, and encourage our students and faculty to cancel any spring break travel they may have planned and to stay home. Faculty who have planned travel to scheduled conferences will be relied on to make their own decision regarding those plans. At the conclusion of the spring break, we encourage

students to observe the same precautions we are asking of them now: stay home if you feel unwell. Please consult your medical professional if you have any concerns regarding your health status.

Be assured that the College continues to monitor developments both on campus and in the region in order to ensure the health and well being of our students, faculty and staff. We are all concerned about the spread of this disease in our region and around the country. At Mount Saint Vincent, we must base our individual and collective response on an assessment of the facts and current public health guidance. If you have questions to pursue, I encourage you to call Student Affairs, Human Resources, or the Provost's office.

May I ask all students to please forward this email to parents or guardians.