Dear Students,

Since concerns about the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) first began, the University at Albany has been closely monitoring the situation with guidance from our local health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). As part of these efforts, we have been following developments related to outbreaks in countries outside of the U.S. where the UAlbany community is present.

While the University at Albany has suspended spring semester programs in China, based on the information and advisories available at this time, UAlbany has made the decision not to temporarily or permanently suspend additional programs abroad. However, the situation remains fluid and the decision to suspend additional programs could change at any time. Should UAlbany decide to suspend additional programs, further information will be provided to those affected. Importantly, students and their families are advised to make educated decisions that best reflect their academic, financial, and personal circumstances.

If you are currently abroad and intend to engage in regional or intra-country travel, please make yourself aware of any local and/or national travel delays or restrictions. Further information is available by visiting the U.S Department of State’s travel advisory, the CDC, the WHO, and local health ministry websites.

At home and abroad, we also wish to urge you to exercise caution regarding information you may see about COVID-19 on social media, especially as it relates to our campus. As you would with any important matter, please attempt to discern the source of any information you see before sharing it or making any decisions based on that information. As always, our highest priority is the health and safety of every member of our University community; that is why we are asking you to take all appropriate precautions as we continue to monitor the situation closely, including the following health tips:

- Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands often and for at least 20 seconds each time.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
· Get vaccinated yearly against seasonal flu.

If you become ill with flu-like symptoms while abroad, please contact your in-country study abroad support staff for further guidance. Students participating in a SUNY study abroad program are automatically enrolled in a United Health Care (UHC) international health insurance plan. UHC provides you with service and protection in the event illness or injury during your study abroad program. If you are in need of non-emergency medical care overseas, contact United Health Care directly via the phone number on the issued ID card (844-249-0748) or email UCH at assistance@uhcglobal.com for 24/7 service and assistance.

Further updates related to the UAAlbany community are located on the University’s Risk Management and Student Health Services web pages.