Dear Students,

Please find attached two communications from the central administration of the 64-campus SUNY system, of which UAlbany is a campus. Please acknowledge receipt of this message and follow through on any actions that pertain to you.
UPDATE

6 March 2020

Message to Students Returning Home from Study Abroad Programs

As you know, SUNY has determined that it is necessary to cancel the study abroad programs in Italy, Japan, and South Korea due to health and safety concerns related to the Coronavirus outbreak. This means that SUNY is instructing all program participants in the impacted countries to return to New York immediately.

The State of New York and SUNY have determined that the safest and most efficient manner to get students home as soon as possible is to charter flights at no cost to you, back to New York.

Self-Isolation Required at Home or at a Designated Campus Location

Upon your return to New York, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) will require self-isolation for a period of 14 days either at home or in a separate SUNY residence life facility, which will be provided to you when you return and may be different from your home campus. Strict screening and monitoring protocols will be conducted by SUNY, State and/or local health officials whether you self-isolate at home or in a SUNY facility.

While SUNY is instructing that you return to New York immediately, if you choose to remain in your current location, your program will not continue and will be at your own risk and without SUNY involvement. Please note, if you choose to stay, you must make separate arrangements for your stay at the host country, and if the Coronavirus outbreak remains prevalent you will still be subject to DOH or a local county Department of Health self-isolation upon your return.

Attached to this notice is an acknowledgement that you agree to self-isolate for a period of 14 days either at home or at a SUNY designated dormitory and meet all DOH medical monitoring that will be required.

Below is confirmed information already sent to you regarding the confirmed flight from Italy to New York. Regarding the flights from South Korea and Japan to New York, which is currently scheduled for Monday, March 9, SUNY is finalizing those arrangements and will confirm the details tomorrow, March 6.

Students in Italy

A chartered Delta Airlines flight is being arranged from Internazionale di Roma-Fiumicino “Leonardo da Vinci International Airport” (FCO) to fly directly into John F. Kennedy International Airport. The Delta flight 8875 will depart this Saturday, March 7th at 2pm local Rome time, arriving that same day at 5:50pm Eastern Standard Time.
Please arrive at their airport with all of your luggage two hours ahead of the scheduled departure time.

Delta will be emailing you a copy of your itinerary shortly, which you will need to either print out or have available on your mobile device before you arrive at the airport. Once you arrive at the airport, you will look for a Delta Red-Coat employee at the entrance to the Delta check-in counter area and show them your itinerary. They will escort you into the lobby and ticket-counter where you will check your bags and complete your ticketing process.

Please note that all passengers on outbound flights to the U.S. are required to be screened at the airport. Individuals whose temperature is higher than 99.5 degrees Fahrenheit will not be permitted to board.

**Students in South Korea**

A chartered Delta Flight has been arranged to fly from Incheon International Airport (INC) directly to John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK). DELTA Flight 8874 will depart Monday, March 9 at 6:30 pm local Incheon time and arrive the same day (because of the time zone difference) at 6:25 pm Eastern Standard Time. Once you arrive at the airport, you will look for a Delta Red-Coat employee at the entrance to the Delta check-in counter area and show them your itinerary. They will escort you into the lobby and ticket-counter where you will check your bags and complete your ticketing process.

Please arrive at their airport with all of your luggage two hours ahead of the scheduled departure time. You will check-in via the standard Delta ticket counter.

Please note that all passengers on outbound flights to the U.S. may be required to be screened at the airport. Individuals whose temperature is higher than 99.5 degrees Fahrenheit will not be permitted to board.

**Students in Japan**

SUNY will arrange flights for students from Japan to New York on Monday March 9. SUNY will be reaching out to you today to schedule and provide ticketing information. We will confirm your passport information (number, expiration date, and DOB) and other details. Please arrive at their airport with all of your luggage three hours ahead of the scheduled departure time. You will check-in via the standard Delta ticket counter.

Again, we are working to provide you with additional flight information and expect to send that to you very soon.
Arriving in New York – Students Can Choose Home or Designated Campus Location

Upon arrival from any of the three countries to New York, students will have a choice to either self-isolate at home or at a SUNY designated campus, both requiring strict DOH monitoring protocols that will be provided to each student before they board the plane to New York. Students will need to notify SUNY of their preference by filling out and signing the attached acknowledgement.

Students Choosing Home Isolation

For students choosing self-isolation at their home, students will need to provide SUNY and your host campus with details on arranging parent or guardian pick up at JFK airport. SUNY will make arrangements and cover cost for travel, if a student is unable to secure transportation from airport to their home location.

Students Choosing Designated Dormitory Isolation

Students who elect to stay at a SUNY designated dormitory will be provided with transportation to the dormitory. Tentative locations include Western NY Central NY and the Long Island region SUNY will work with your local campuses to make arrangements to provide housing at a region as close to your home campus as feasible. These dormitories will be solely dedicated to study abroad students and will not include students currently on campus.

On arriving at the dormitories, SUNY and the hosting campus will make all arrangements for food and other resources needed and medical monitoring.

SUNY will ensure that no student will be academically penalized for returning back before completing the study abroad program. Additionally, we will work with each student to reimburse all costs associated with leaving their study program early.
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

ACKNOWLEDGMENT FOR EARLY RETURN FROM STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

PROGRAM LOCATION(S):

CAMPUS PROGRAM:
HOME CAMPUS:

SUMMARY OF KEY INFORMATION:

1) The State University of New York ("SUNY") has determined that it is necessary to cancel the study abroad program that you are currently participating in due to health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak. Therefore, SUNY is instructing all current program participants to return to New York State immediately. This action is being taken, in part, pursuant to the “Study Abroad Release” document that you signed prior to participation in the program. Specifically, that release authorized SUNY to cancel the program at any time and to require the return of all participants to the United States. A copy of your signed Agreement and Acceptance of Risk for Study Away form can be obtained upon request.

2) The State of New York has determined that the safest and most effective manner to get SUNY students home is to charter planes which will provide free transport back to New York State from countries currently designated as a Level 2 or Level 3 travel risk by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. Currently those countries include China, Iran, South Korea, Italy, and Japan. All arrangements will be made by and costs borne by the State of New York.

Initials Requested:

3) Upon your return to the United States, you will be given a quarantine order from the NYS Department of Health or a county Department of Health, which will require you to be isolated. This means that you will most likely be housed in a SUNY residence life facility (which may be in a different part of New York from your home campus) or in a self-quarantine at your permanent residence. **If you desire to self-quarantine at your permanent residence, please indicate by inserting your initials here.** Final determination regarding whether you will be allowed to self-quarantine will be made after screening at the NY Airport. Isolation will last as long as deemed necessary by medical experts—currently, this is about two weeks. Screening and medical monitoring will be conducted by SUNY, State and/or local health officials. SUNY and New York State will bear the cost of this process.

4) While SUNY is strongly recommending that you return to the United States immediately as a precaution and because your SUNY program will not continue, you do not need to return now; however, be advised that if you choose to remain in your current location, it is at your own risk and without SUNY involvement. You must make separate arrangements for your stay there. Your home or administering SUNY campus will work with you to ensure appropriate transfer of academic credit, if any, upon completion of your experience.
Further, if you do not follow SUNY’s instructions to return at this time, you will not be able to request reimbursement for any claim for travel or financial assistance currently being offered by SUNY and New York State. In addition, upon your eventual return to New York State, if the COVID-19 remains prevalent and your country of origin remains Level 2 or Level 3, you will be required to be isolated at a State-selected location by order of the NYS Department of Health, as set forth above.

5) If you choose to remain abroad, you should contact your insurance carriers providing health and repatriation coverage to determine if you can continue the coverage.

WHAT CONDITIONS APPLY TO THESE CHANGES AND MY DECISION TO RETURN OR STAY?

The Agreement and Acceptance of Risk for Study Away that you executed prior to your participation in the program remains in effect. Therefore, you released SUNY, its officers, trustees, employees, and agents from any and all liability, damage or claim of damages to or loss of your property, personal injury or illness, or death while participating in this program. This would include any issues that may arise in connection with the COVID-19 outbreak, including the quarantine.

If you decline to return to New York State at this time, you are freely assuming any risk associated with or arising out of traveling, studying, conducting research, engaging in community service, participating in activities, and living abroad, including potential exposure to COVID-19.

WHY ARE THESE CHANGES TAKING PLACE?

First, this is a protocol we are adopting at the advice of public health officials with your welfare as our top priority. Also, SUNY study abroad programs in the countries most impacted by COVID-19 are being cancelled and arrangements are being made to transport all willing students and staff to New York State, where they will begin a period of quarantine, either at a SUNY residence life facility or at your home, in accordance with the determination to be made regarding the location of your quarantine. This process will allow for containment of those who may have been exposed from the SUNY campuses and communities, which have not been exposed.

HOW DO I AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RETURN?

Representatives from SUNY will be in touch directly in order to finalize return arrangements.

I ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE AND UNDERSTAND THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ABOVE WHICH I ACCEPT:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Signature of Student</th>
<th>Print Name of Student</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date/Time</td>
<td>Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian(^1)</td>
<td>Relationship to Student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date/Time</td>
<td>Signature of Campus Designee</td>
<td>Print Name of Campus Designee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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\(^1\) Signature of custodial parent or legal guardian is required for minors.