Great Dane:

We continue to monitor developments related to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

With spring break approaching, I encourage you to exercise your best judgement when making travel plans, in particular when traveling internationally.

There are several things I ask you to keep in mind:

1. Because the COVID-19 situation is rapidly evolving, out of an abundance of caution, consider bringing your academic materials with you in the unlikely event that you are unable to return to campus after spring break.

2. Consistent with CDC guidance, please avoid nonessential travel to Italy, Iran, South Korea and China. The CDC also urges using caution when traveling to other regions that are experiencing sustained community transmission, which currently includes Japan. Per New York State Department of Health guidance, anyone who travels to these regions will be required to undergo a 14-day self-isolation and must be monitored by their county health department before returning to any UAlbany campus. We strongly encourage you to avoid travel to these areas, but should you choose to go, you must contact the Office of Enterprise Risk Management and Compliance at (518) 956-8120 or alippold@albany.edu.
3. Government-imposed travel restrictions may increase as the outbreak evolves. If you travel outside of the U.S. and a new travel restriction is imposed while you are away, this could impact your return to Albany and your ability to resume classes.

4. In accordance with CDC travel recommendations, the State of New York has prohibited all campus-related travel to China, Iran, Italy, South Korea, and Japan.

5. For the most up-to-date travel guidance, please visit the CDC website.

As is the case with the regular cold and flu season, there are everyday measures we can take to protect our health and the health of our community such as frequent hand-washing, avoiding touching your face, getting vaccinated against seasonal flu, staying home when sick and avoiding close contact with people who are sick.

Our highest priority is the health and safety of every member of our campus community; that is why I encourage you to take all appropriate precautions as we continue to monitor the situation closely. To learn more, please visit our FAQ page or watch a recent Town Hall meeting held on campus. For the most up-to-date information regarding COVID-19, please visit the CDC website.

I understand that the news surrounding COVID-19 makes this a challenging time and it is increasingly important that we are prepared.

Sincerely,

Clarence L. McNeill
Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs
& Dean of Students