

March 3, 2020

Good morning,

I will share updates with the campus community regarding the COVID-19 outbreak on a regular basis. With the fluidity of the outbreak, discussions and plans for our campus response continue and will likely do so as we monitor the outbreak.

As I mentioned last week, the University System of Maryland has been extremely helpful in bringing all of the system institutions together on this outbreak. The Presidents and representatives of the shared governance units at the system level (Council of University System Staff, USM Student Council and Council of University System Faculty) spent Monday morning discussing appropriate actions and responses given the current situation. In all of these discussions, we are being guided by the best thinking from the medical school at the University System of Maryland, Baltimore and their interactions with state and federal agencies.

I want to assure everyone that the primary focus is on the safety and well-being of the campus community. Much of our current thinking is that any outbreaks on campus or in the community would require individuals who may be infected to self-isolate or home-isolate for an appropriate period of time. The virus seems to affect those who are 60 or older the most.

Here are the next steps at FSU: Teams from the USM schools, including FSU, are coming together on Wednesday for further discussion of potential actions for various scenarios. The executive team and others in support roles will be updated on Wednesday as well and will again review our current pandemic response plan. I will brief both the Faculty and Staff Senates Wednesday afternoon at their regularly scheduled meetings. I have also been in contact with SGA leadership. A website is being set up on the Brady Health site with resources and information, which will be updated regularly.

Next **Monday, March 9, at 4 p.m.** we will have an open Q&A for **interested faculty and staff** in the ARMAH.

On **Tuesday, March 10, at 5 p.m.** in Compton 226, we will have an open Q&A for **students**.

I concur with the USM thinking that, given the unpredictability and fluidity of this outbreak, each campus needs to be vigilant, have a plan in place, and recognize that changing situations may require us to update or modify our plans. In all cases, preparedness and frequent communication is essential.

I'll keep you updated.

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