

March 11, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

When it comes to the latest novel coronavirus, and the disease it causes (or perhaps more dangerously, that people carry without being aware of it), we're hearing a lot of information these days from different sources. We're also interpreting the news based on our own experiences. And we're left wondering... Are we doing enough to prepare? Are we over-reacting? Like me, you may be worried whether or not our healthcare services can cope if you or a loved one gets sick and how to care for children if schools are closed. The news from Wall Street is adding stress.

For the vast majority of people, the coronavirus infection causes very mild disease and the precautions that the CDC and public health officials are reminding us about are best practices for our hygiene in normal times (see attached) – and every year during flu season.

I also want to remind you of the outcome that everyone around the globe is trying to achieve. Uniquely in human history we are all working to remove a globally distributed human virus from existence – without the help of vaccines. The extraordinary measures we are taking during this WHO-designated pandemic, and those we will be asked to take in the days and weeks ahead, are to this one end.

I want to thank all our leaders within the division and across the university who are working calmly and methodically to prepare for further disruption to our activities in Tucson and throughout the state. I ask that you communicate with your direct supervisor when you have concerns. Also please keep track of the University of Arizona's central webpage for updates and guidance:

<https://www.arizona.edu/coronavirus-covid-19-information>

I recommend to everyone that you minimize all non-essential gatherings to ≤ 30 people. Please consider your meeting settings: well-ventilated space, especially outdoors, is better than meeting in stuffy rooms. Video-conferencing is another option.

This is also a good time for you to ensure you are registered for the UAlert emergency notification system. If you are already registered, please take a moment to sign in and ensure your alerts are being delivered to your current phone number or email address. In an emergency, this is the university's most efficient method to communicate with all employees and students.

<https://cirt.arizona.edu/ualert>

My best wishes to all of you as we work through the coming weeks.



Shane C. Burgess

PREVENTION IS KEY.

Prevent the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)



WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN
with soap & water for at
least 20 seconds or use an
alcohol-based hand sanitizer.



AVOID TOUCHING your eyes, nose,
& mouth with unwashed hands.
AVOID CLOSE CONTACT with
people who are sick.



STAY HOME if you are sick.
CLEAN & DISINFECT frequently
touched objects & surfaces.



COVER YOUR MOUTH & NOSE with
a tissue or your sleeve (not your
hands) when coughing or sneezing.



If you have questions or want to learn more, visit
www.pima.gov/covid19 or call (520) 626-6016
Additional info & updates: HEALTH.ARIZONA.EDU



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