Dear Members of the LIU Community,

The safety and health of our faculty, staff and students is extremely important to us. We want to assure you that we are continually monitoring the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and following the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Travel guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) are continually evolving and we will update our travel policies accordingly. The U.S. government has issued new warnings against travel to Iran and Italy, as well as new screening protocols for travelers returning to the United States from affected areas (CDC Level 3 – Avoid Nonessential Travel) currently in mainland China, South Korea, Italy and Iran.

As stated in our previous communication, the University recommends that all LIU faculty and staff members who are planning international travel be mindful of the potential associated risk of disruptions to your ability to reenter the United States. We advise you to consult travel guidance from the CDC prior to and during your trip and make every effort to stay up to date regarding often fast-changing governmental regulations (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html). We urge you to exercise caution when traveling to countries with Level 2 travel advisories and strongly reconsider any travel to countries with Level 3 travel advisories. Please be aware that anyone returning from a CDC Warning Level 3 country will be subject to screening and quarantine guidelines in place at the time, which may include a 14-day quarantine upon return to the U.S.

Our goal is to avoid having members of our community abroad if further travel restrictions are put in place. Those who do decide to travel abroad could be subject to quarantine for at least 14 days upon their return and unable to return to work. Over the past few weeks, we have witnessed that countries can make quick and unexpected decisions that can affect one’s ability to travel. Accordingly, approval for faculty travel is subject to change.

As you may be aware as of March 4th, there are eleven confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New York. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, the CDC recommends daily preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

Below are additional resources to find updated information about the symptoms and current recommendations for the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

- CDC: Coronavirus
- World Health Organization: Coronavirus
- New York State Health Department
- Local NYS County Health Departments

Thank you for your partnership and support.

Sincerely,

Lisa Araujo
Chief Human Resources Officer