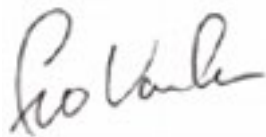


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To: CSU International Programs Community **Date:** February 27, 2020



From: Leo Van Cleve
Assistant Vice Chancellor

Phone: (562) 951-4790

Subject: **COVID-19 and CSU International Programs in Italy and Korea**

This memo is to provide an update focused on CSU International Programs (IP) operations in Italy and South Korea. Dr. Jaishankar Raman, Director and IP staff are closely following the events related to the Novel Coronavirus globally. The most recent increase in cases are in Italy and South Korea. The US State Department Travel Advisory for Italy and South Korea is at Level Two. This comes with the recommendation to exercise increased caution. The situation is evolving and, in an effort to get the latest information, we are monitoring the US State Department, OSAC, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO). In addition, we are in communication with colleagues at other US universities that have programs in Italy and South Korea. Our office has also been in regular communication with the University of California Educational Abroad Program (UCEAP) since they too have programs in these locations. Finally, we are also in close contact with our colleagues abroad.

In Italy, our staff at the Florence center are in contact with all of our students and have documented their travel over the past two weeks. Staff there are making sanitizer and face masks available. Although Tuscany is not among the regions listed in the directive from the Italian government, there has been one reported case (not a CSU student) of COVID 19 in Florence. As required by the Italian government, we have canceled scheduled field trips for the next two weeks. Currently IP is proceeding with normal academic operations in Italy

In South Korea, our program is in partnership with Yonsei University in Seoul. In

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the last few days, we have sent “wellness check” messages to our students. Our office has been in contact with staff at Yonsei University and received their assessment of the current situation on the campus. The university has delayed the start of the spring semester by one week until March 16th. While the US State Department Travel Advisory remains at Level Two, the CDC has raised the Warning Level Three. In view of the rapid rate of increase and the potential for continued spread of the virus, we have made the decision to suspend the program at Yonsei University for the spring semester. IP will notify students and work with students as they return. As a part of that process staff will be in contact with affected campuses.

We are constantly monitoring the coronavirus in real-time and will advise if any other programmatic implications arise in any additional countries or regions. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me at lvancleve@calstate.edu.

cc: Dr. Timothy P. White, California State University
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