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February 27, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: CSU Campus Presidents

FROM: Loren J. Blanchard, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor
Academic and Student Affairs



Steve Relyea
Executive Vice Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer



SUBJECT: COVID-19 and CSU Students Abroad in Korea and Italy

Over the last few days, we have watched as the concern about COVID-19, the coronavirus, shifted from China to other regions of the world. In particular, recent developments in South Korea have become greater cause for concern. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently placed South Korea at “Warning Level Three” advising to “avoid non-essential travel.” The U.S. State Department has also raised their *Travel Advisory* to “Level Three.” The health and safety of our students is of primary concern and we encourage campuses to consider this in making decisions about student programming in affected areas. Please see the links below for the most current updates:

[Centers for Disease Control: South Korea](#)

[US State Department Travel Advisory: South Korea](#)

The CSU systemwide International Programs (IP) have made the decision to suspend the program in Seoul, South Korea. Students will be contacted directly and provided with guidance on departure and return to California. To limit the impact on students, Chancellor’s Office staff are working to address financial aid matters related to this guidance, including contacting the U.S. Department of Education. We are also exploring enrollment options in online spring quarter courses in order to avoid the loss of academic credit for the spring term.

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Although the number of cases in Italy has also increased, neither the absolute number nor the rate of increase has been as dramatic as in South Korea. The CSU's IP Italy program is based in Florence, which has not been among the primary regions for identified cases. IP staff are in daily contact with our CSU IP staff there and have taken steps to ensure the wellbeing of CSU students. As of this writing, there are no plans to suspend the program, but we will continue to follow developments and provide updates as appropriate.

If you have questions regarding CSU international policies, please contact Leo Van Cleve at lvancleve@calstate.edu or for questions related to IP students in South Korea, please contact Dr. Jaishankar Raman at jraman@calstate.edu

LJB/lvc

c: Dr. Timothy P. White, Chancellor
Mr. Garrett Ashley, Vice Chancellor for University Relations and Advancement
CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs
CSU Vice Presidents of Student Affairs and/or Enrollment Management
CSU Vice Presidents of Administration and Finance
CSU Senior International Officers