

March 6, 2020

Dear students and faculty/staff members –

At Grand View, we are concerned for the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff. The upcoming Spring Break travel season offers an increased opportunity for people to encounter individuals who are carrying the new coronavirus. Accordingly, we urge frequent handwashing, use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer, and other basic sanitation measures.

We continue to monitor the coronavirus/COVID-19 situation locally and globally. For now, we recommend that travelers follow guidance from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control; see <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>). The CDC's Warning Level 3 (Avoid Non-Essential Travel) is the most severe and includes China, South Korea, Italy, and Iran. We strongly urge against travel to those nations and for travelers returning to the US from those nations to self-isolate themselves for 14 days and seek medical care if they experience flu-like symptoms. The CDC's Alert Level 2 (Practice Enhanced Precautions) includes only one nation (Japan) because of community spread of COVID-19. CDC's lowest level is Watch Level 1 (Practice Usual Precautions) and only includes Hong Kong because the coronavirus outbreak has spread there.

While several other nations have cases of COVID-19, the CDC has not recommended curtailed travel. The situation can change very rapidly, however, so we strongly recommend that all travelers monitor the situation. We also want to advise that

- The U.S. government and/or local host governments can enact travel restrictions, institute quarantines, and activate additional border screening processes at any time, and
- Flight carriers can announce suspension of travel routes into and out of a country at any time. Some airlines are allowing ticketed passengers to make changes without incurring additional fees, so you should consult with your airline for terms and conditions.

Thank you,
CM

Carl O. Moses
Provost and VP for Academic Affairs

