



In an effort to stay connected with our campus community in regards to the COVID-19 outbreak, I am going to be sending routine communications about what our crisis team is doing to prepare for a potential event at Iowa Western.

The administration today decided to invoke a travel ban and is suspending any upcoming college-sponsored travel for our staff and students outside the continental U.S. and Hawaii for the remainder of the spring semester. Those travelling outside of the U.S. for personal reasons will be required to self-quarantine "off campus" for 14 days upon return from that travel.

Additionally, with spring break approaching soon, we urge our students, faculty and staff to be thoughtful about personal travel. Those that wish to travel out of the country will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days upon returning to the United States.

We understand there is considerable concern among staff and students about the spread of this virus. The administration is taking all necessary steps to prepare for the outbreak by working closely with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Pottawattamie County Health Department. Both agencies are closely connected to the situation both on a national and local basis and are providing the college with important information for planning purposes.

As of today there are no confirmed cases of this virus from either staff or students at Iowa Western. We will continue to monitor any reports of illness, as we are gathering input from students via a special e-mail campaign (COVID19@iwcc.edu) dedicated to providing and accepting virus information. Staff are encouraged to reach out to their vice presidents with concerns they may have about the COVID-19 virus and its impact on Iowa Western.

Once again, please keep these suggestions in mind during this critical time:

- Stay home when not feeling well, and always contact your doctor or a health professional for advice.
- If you are experiencing symptoms as identified by the IDPH, please alert your vice president via an e mail so we can help monitor the situation.
- Frequently wash your hands with soap, and utilize hand sanitizer when you are not able to wash your hands.
- Do not put your hands near your face before washing your hands.
- Use etiquette when coughing and sneezing. Cough or sneeze into a tissue, followed by washing your hands. If a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve.

The best resource for finding out more about this global virus would be to visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website <https://www.cdc.gov/>

Locally, the Pottawattamie County Public Health Department and partners has activated a call center for people with questions regarding coronavirus. The call center will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call center numbers are 712-890-5368 or 712-890-5369.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan Kinney'.

Dr. Dan Kinney
President