Important Message from the Provost: Update to Coronavirus Travel Restrictions

University Community,

Following recommendations from the <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u> and the <u>U.S. Department of State</u> regarding the coronavirus, The University of Southern Mississippi is issuing travel restrictions for all University faculty, staff, and students to all countries under <u>CDC Level 3 or Level 4 travel advisories</u>. Travel to countries under Level 3 or Level 4 advisories will not be authorized or approved by the University. This travel restriction is similar to restrictions many businesses and organizations across the U.S. have implemented. Self-funded travel to and from these areas is also strongly discouraged. Keep in mind that this is a rapidly evolving situation and new countries could be added to advisories at any time.

The University will continue monitoring this evolving situation and provide updates as appropriate. To date, no one at USM nor in Mississippi is known to have been infected by the virus. Nevertheless, prevention is a key strategy with any infectious illness. We encourage the USM community to continue practicing preventative measures such as hand washing, covering your cough, self-isolation when ill, and disinfecting surfaces regularly.

I also encourage you to visit the <u>Moffitt Health Center's website</u>, which contains information about the coronavirus, including links to important, additional resources.

Steven R. Moser, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

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