Dear Student,

It is with a heavy heart that I write today to inform you that all Winter 2021 domestic and international travel study programs have been canceled.

As you are aware, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, extending its impact to almost every facet of our lives. While it was our sincerest hope to facilitate your journey this winter, we are taking this action now out of an abundance of caution for your safety and well-being.

Even as our university, our state and our nation carefully prepare to reopen, safe worldwide travel has not yet become feasible, and international cross-border mobility remains limited. The U.S. State Department maintains its <u>Global Health Advisory</u> and, along with the <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u> (CDC), recommends against all non-essential international travel. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic poses significant challenges to securing safe housing, meals, transportation, classroom space and more for short-term programs. The decision was made to cancel 21W programs at this time in order to give you ample time to plan your academic year.

We understand that this decision may disappoint you, and hope you know that this is a difficult time for us all, and for our partners around the world.

Here are our responsibilities to you:

- If you have been accepted to a program, your winter tuition and program fee will be credited to your UD student account. Please understand that we are managing multiple program cancelations at this time and processing may take several weeks.
- 2. IGS will honor study abroad scholarship awards. If you received a Delaware Diplomats scholarship to participate in this program, that same amount can be applied to the program fee of a future UD study abroad program. If you received an IGS need-based scholarship to participate in this program, that scholarship will also apply to another UD study abroad program, but on a proportional basis (for example 50% or 60% of the program fee--a similar percentage to what you received for this program).
- 3. We're working on alternative global education opportunities for you. IGS is actively collaborating with winter session faculty directors to re-imagine your programs and to help you keep exploring. To assist us in planning, we invite you to <a href="mailto:share your feedback with us">share your feedback with us</a> by July 15. We hope to share news with you soon but ask for your patience as faculty may need time to develop a new course of action.

Again, please know that we share your disappointment about the cancelation of your program. You are a valued member of our community, and we are here to support you. Visit our <u>UD Global at Home</u> page to continue exploring this summer. For updates on the University's response to COVID-19, please visit the <u>UD website</u>.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to <u>contact our office</u> at any time.

Sincerely,

Lisa Chieffo Interim Director

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