Dear Students,

As you are aware, the Institute for Global Studies continues to closely monitor the evolution of the novel (new) coronavirus, known as COVID-19. As always, your health and safety remain our top priorities.

Here are a few important updates:

1. **On March 11**, U.S. President Donald Trump issued an update to his presidential proclamation suspending the entry of immigrants and nonimmigrants who pose a risk of transmitting the 2019 novel coronavirus. **While this proclamation now extends to the Schengen Area (comprising 26 European states), it does not apply to U.S. citizens or permanent residents.** Please note that the situation remains fluid, and we anticipate that U.S. citizens and permanent residents returning to the U.S. may be subject to inspections or examinations.

2. **On March 11**, the U.S. State Department also issued a **Global Level 3 Health Advisory**, advising all U.S. citizens to reconsider travel abroad.

3. **Today, March 12**, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) issued a **Level 3 Warning** for most of Europe, and advised all U.S. citizens to avoid all non-essential travel to affected countries.

IGS is working closely with our campus and international partners to assess the feasibility of UD Study Abroad programs on a case-by-case basis, including opportunities for online learning. If UD decides to cancel a study abroad program, we will communicate directly with affected students and their emergency contacts.

The University **strongly discourages free-time international travel**. If you do choose to travel outside of your host community, please register your planned trip in the Drum-Cussac system.

In the meantime, you should remain cautious, **practice good health and hygiene** and monitor your UD email regularly for updates. You should also follow recommendations from your host institution and **sign up for email alerts for your host location(s)**.

It is natural to experience some anxiety during this time, even if you are feeling physically healthy. Remember that UD’s Helpline is available to you 24/7, even while you are abroad: 302-831-1001.

You are a valued member of our community, and we are here to support you. For updates on the University’s response to COVID-19, please visit the **UD website**. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to **contact our office**.

Sincerely,

Lisa Chieffo
Interim Director
Institute for Global Studies
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