

Dear Quincy University community:

This message is the nineteenth update on Quincy University's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are a member of the QU community and have not read the previous update messages, we encourage you to search them out in your email folders or read them at <https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/>. The QU coronavirus website also includes a link to our Q&A document, which was most recently updated today, March 27.

As of today, Friday, March 27, the Adams County (Illinois) Health Department has previously confirmed one COVID-19 case, the first and, thus far, the only case in our region. To the best of our knowledge, the infected person was not connected to QU in any way. This is the same case we have mentioned for the past several days.

As many news sources indicate, we are still seeing a steady increase in the number of such cases reported in Illinois, in Missouri, across the nation, and around the world. There are now 3,026 COVID-19 cases in Illinois, with the great majority of those cases in the Chicago area. We remind everyone that no part of our nation is likely to avoid COVID-19 cases. The growth in the number of cases for Illinois in the past day can be attributed in part to the increased availability of COVID-19 testing. More information about COVID-19 cases in Illinois, including county-by-county reports, is available at <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx>.

Every day, Dr. Tracy has a virtual meeting with the Adams County Health Department and individuals on the Emergency Operations Management Team. This meeting consists of representatives from education, government, healthcare, Red Cross, food services and others in Adams County, with a focus on ensuring the safety and preparation of our community. You can learn more about Adams County and stay current by visiting the following website: <https://www.co.adams.il.us/government/departments/health-department>.

Illinois, including Quincy, continues to operate under a "stay at home" order until the end of the day on April 7. Quincy University's residence halls and cafeteria remain open and will remain open for the semester, while QU students will take courses exclusively online for the remainder of the spring semester. QU's spring commencement ceremony has been postponed to a later date.

Registration for summer and fall classes opens on Monday, March 30.

Families who are experiencing financial difficulties with their student account balances are encouraged to reach out to Kristi Shelton as soon as possible. Kristi will work with you to explore resources that may be available to you and work out a payment plan that will work for you and your family. We encourage you to reach out as soon as possible, as some resources may be time sensitive. Kristi can be reached by email at sheltkr@quincy.edu, or you may call her during regular business hours at 217-228-5432 ext. 3724.

Quincy University's Health and Well-Being Clinic will offer counseling services via telehealth for any student or employee who needs them, regardless of where they are living. Should you

need these services, at no cost, please call 217-228-6550 ext. 3418 and please let them know you are a student or employee of Quincy University.

We would set the next, very familiar sentence to music, but they would be the worst lyrics ever: Each of us needs to wash hands, use hand sanitizer, and maintain a physical distance of six feet when we must be out in public. Some pretty silly examples intended to help you estimate whether you are six feet from another person are available at <https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/24/health/six-feet-social-distance-explainer-coronavirus-wellness/index.html>.

If you are looking for more campus news, you are encouraged to follow @Quincy_U and @Quincy_UMcGee on Twitter. Resources are always available at www.quincy.edu and at <https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/>.

In case an earlier paragraph scared you, not to worry. President McGee solemnly promises not to sing about hand sanitizer or social distancing. And he definitely will not create a Twitter video containing any such song.

Enjoy your weekend, Hawks.

Sincerely,
Dr. Brian McGee, President
Dr. Christine Tracy, Vice President for Student Development

P.S. This weekend in Quincy and in the Midwest we have a forecast calling for considerable rain, including hail and a threat of tornados. Please be mindful of that and watch or listen to the weather.