

May 1, 2009

Dear International Programs Students, Parents, Advisors, Faculty and Staff:

As you are aware, there has been a recent outbreak of the Swine Flu (H1N1). Although there have only been a few instances reported in a few of the countries in which we have programs this summer, we will continue to monitor the situation closely. Many of the host countries have not yet had a case at all. The university is working closely with the Leon County and State of Florida Departments of Health, as well as following guidelines from the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control. **Please rest assured that the university and International Programs have reviewed our policies and procedures to ensure that our responses are appropriate and timely.**

The university has set up the following webpage to keep the university community abreast of developments: <http://alerts.fsu.edu>. A link to this page is available from FSU's main website home page, as well as from the International Programs webpage. We will notify students, faculty and staff if any changes to plans will affect them, and any such changes will be noted on our website.

The CDC offers the following precautions to stay healthy during this outbreak:

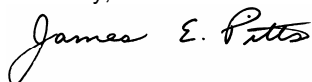
- Stay informed. The CDC website will be updated regularly as information becomes available.
- Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people. Take everyday actions to stay healthy.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- Stay home if you get sick. CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

Each student and faculty member on the International Programs is covered by insurance provided by CISI. We have been in contact with them and they have assured us of the following coverage:

- CISI will cover any insured person who becomes diagnosed with the H1N1 regardless of whether a CDC, WHO, etc. advisory was/is in place. Once no longer contagious, and if medically necessary, they would also cover their medical evacuation home.
- If the insured is quarantined and must stay in their host country beyond their termination date, FSU would be able to extend their coverage with CISI until such time as they are able to leave.
- If the insured is not sick but also quarantined and/or the borders are closed, FSU would also be able to extend their coverage with CISI until such time as they are able to return to their home country.

Florida State University International Programs has contingency plans for a multitude of emergency situations, including possible pandemic flu viruses. We take the safety and security of our students, faculty and staff very seriously. We are sending you this information in hopes of assuring you rather than alarming you. As the situation develops, students will be notified and kept abreast via the International Programs website, group meetings on-site, and mass emails (if needed). Also, please feel free to email me or call our office if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



James E. Pitts
Director, International Programs
Florida State University