## **CU** coronavirus update

The University of Colorado is closely following developments related to the international spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). The health and safety of our students, faculty and staff is our highest priority as



we coordinate our planning and response. It is receiving the highest level of attention on our campuses and system administration.

I am having regular, ongoing conversations with the four campus chancellors to compare our approaches, share best practices and ensure we are doing everything we can to plan and prepare to limit exposure and lower risk. I am also talking with the leaders of other colleges and universities in Colorado and beyond. We are engaging experts inside and outside the university, including the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to get the latest information and recommendations.

As of this writing, we have had six people on CU campuses tested for COVID-19. Four of those tests came back negative and two are pending. The CDPHE reports nine confirmed cases in Colorado thus far. While none of those are on a CU campus, it would be irresponsible if we did not prepare for the likely event of cases of the virus on our campuses.

We have contingency plans for our fundamental activities in teaching and research and we continue to refine those and additional operational contingencies that arise. It's important to note that planning for emergencies such as a pandemic are ongoing parts of what we do; they do not just happen when an emergency arises.

We are planning for possible disruptions to our academic and research enterprises, considering implications for housing and dining facilities and looking at what we need to do for some of the larger events we host. We are restricting travel for study abroad and research purposes to countries the CDC has designated Level 3, including China, Iran, South Korea and Italy. We are also requiring authorization for all international travel.

We are keeping students, parents, faculty and staff apprised with updates. Campus and system websites are the most current sources of information. You can visit sites for <u>CU Boulder</u>, <u>CU Colorado Springs</u>, <u>CU Denver</u>, the <u>CU Anschutz Medical Campus</u> and <u>CU system administration</u>. The CDC COVID-19 <u>website</u> and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment <u>website</u> also are frequently updated.

While we are addressing the issue at hand, we are also taking the long view and planning for dealing with it in the weeks and months ahead. We are prepared for a fast-moving and ever-evolving situation.

CU is a large, complex, intertwined community with campuses in four Colorado cities and operations in many sites across the state and around the world. It is at times like these when it is crucial for our community to come together to address a common threat. I am confident we have sound preparation and planning, and I know that dedicated people on all of our campuses are giving this threat their full attention. We will keep you apprised of developments.

All the best.

Mark Kennedy President

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For feedback, contact president.newsletter@cu.edu