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A LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITY and A CONSTITUENT INSTITUTION of THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA

## **MEMORANDUM**

To Campus Community
Re COVID-19 Update
Date March 11, 2020

Over the past weeks, North Carolina A&T State University and the University of North Carolina System have been monitoring the spread of novel coronavirus and COVID-19 cases. Today, the UNC System issued new guidance for all member institutions regarding preventive measures to help stem the spread of this virus.

The UNC System's decision to suspend in-person instruction later this month and move to online instruction was made in an effort to protect our community while maintaining the quality and integrity of our academic enterprise. "Social distancing" is critical to reducing the spread of the virus. As such, North Carolina A&T is taking the following actions:

Face-to-face instruction will continue through Friday of this week. **Beginning Monday, March 16, in all possible cases classes will be taught online.** Labs and courses that cannot be moved online will continue to meet face-to-face. These changes will remain in place until further notice.

The university is not closed and will remain open during this time. We are aware that some students may opt to remain on campus in their residence halls, and others may choose to return home during this event. Please consult Housing and Residence Life regarding this process.

Reducing the need for students to gather in large groups is intended to limit the potential spread of COVID-19

- University-sponsored conferences and events with an expectation of more than 100 participants are restricted until further notice.
- All university-sponsored travel outside the state of North Carolina, and/or travel within the state to an event with 100 or more people has been suspended. This prohibition includes student organizations.
- All students currently participating in study abroad programs have been recalled. Decisions about summer study abroad opportunities will be announced at a later date.

Additional information regarding changes in university operations and academic procedures will be shared as it becomes available, both via e-mail and the <u>university's coronavirus website</u>. We encourage you to bookmark the site for easy access. It is being updated daily.

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While we cannot limit personal travel of students or employees, we do strongly discourage travel to areas with active community transmission. For information on those places, visit the <u>Center for Disease Control</u> <u>and Prevention website</u> and the <u>U.S. State Department travel advisory page</u>. We are also asking members of the university community returning to the U.S. from an affected area – CDC levels 2 and 3 – to self-quarantine for a period of 14 days.

It is imperative that members of our community do their due diligence to safeguard themselves and our community. The following is recommended:

- Stay home if you feel sick or have a fever
- Avoid touching you face without first washing your hands
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water, or use hand sanitizer, immediately after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose
- When coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve
- Avoid shaking hands

We understand the challenges of preventing the spread of coronavirus are difficult and can be a source of anxiety or fear for some. **Please don't panic.** Be part of the solution by taking social distancing seriously and observing the recommendations listed above to reduce your risks. We appreciate everyone's cooperation as we adapt to this new atmosphere and fully implement measures that are in everyone's best interests.