Dear Student,

The worldwide spread of coronavirus 19 aka COVID-19 is a rapidly evolving situation. UCSB is monitoring the COVID-19 worldwide spread very closely in partnership with the UC system as a whole, the California Public Health Department (CDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

There are currently 53 cases in the United States. Fifty-two of these cases had a high risk travel history or known exposure. The origin of one case in Northern California is still under investigation.

In order to be best prepared and respond quickly and effectively, coordinating our approach with local, state, federal and international agencies is of paramount importance.

We are holding twice weekly calls with the UC Office of the President and weekly call with our local Emergency Operations to get updates on the status of the virus locally and coordinate our responses. We are also working closely with our local campus environmental safety office, housing office, and the office of the vice chancellor. In each of these calls, we get updates on the status of the virus in our region and we review our interventions.

Given that this situation is evolving rapidly, the most up to date information is available on our website: studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu as well as the CDPH page: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx and the CDC website https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

Despite the ongoing spread of the virus, the immediate risk to the UCSB campus remains low. However, if the risk increases and a change in our intervention is warranted, we would coordinate with our public health agencies and act accordingly with appropriate outreach, testing, isolation, and treatment. We have had discussions with our campus emergency operations team and housing and are prepared to intervene and isolate individuals should the need arise.

We are taking this situation very seriously. Our top concern is the health and safety of our students.

As with all viruses, especially during the flu season, Student Health recommends the following steps to prevent the spread of disease.

- Washing hands with soap and water.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- Stay away from work, school or other people if you become sick with respiratory symptoms like fever and cough.

Thank you for your cooperation and continuing to foster an atmosphere of inclusion and kindness on our campus.