

Dear Quincy University community:

This message is the twenty-third 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 Friday, March 27.

Reminder: Registration for QU summer and fall classes opened yesterday, Monday, March 30. You can always contact academic advisors and success coaches for help with registration.

Two COVID-19 cases have been confirmed so far in the Quincy region. To the best of our knowledge, neither is connected to QU.

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 5,994 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>.

There currently are 1,327 COVID-19 cases in Missouri.

As announced today, Illinois, including Quincy, is now operating under a “stay at home” order until the end of the day on Thursday, April 30. This is a change from the original order, which would have ended our Illinois stay-at-home requirement on April 7. We will advise you as soon as possible if the newly extended stay-at-home order will lead to any schedule revisions at Quincy University.

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.

As announced previously, QU's spring commencement ceremony has been postponed to a later date. To be clear, students will earn their degrees as soon as they complete all degree requirements and successfully apply for graduation. Our students who meet requirements by May and originally would have attended the Spring Commencement in May will still graduate in May, even if they attend a commencement ceremony in a later month.

Quincy University's Health and Well-Being Clinic are offering 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.

Our deepest thanks to Fr. John Doctor, OFM, for his beautiful reflection, in an email message this afternoon, on perception, with Psalm 23 as our prayer for today.

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. For anyone you know who still doesn't get it, please encourage that person to watch, for a minimum of ten times, the exciting new "Social Distancing" video just produced by The Wiggles. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jUmSiLXesKI>. And, yes, some of you would have to admit, once upon a time, that you enjoyed The Wiggles. Dr. Tracy and President McGee did not.

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/>.

yIn nI' DaSIQjaj 'ej bIcchepjaj, Hawks. Yes, that's the Klingonese translation for that famous Vulcan valediction, "live long and prosper." If you are confused, see yesterday's update for a previous reference to President McGee and his affection for Star Trek.

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

P.S. The Klingon word for squirrel is qon'Het'wa. A hawk is an 'apuStoQ and will cheerfully eat a qon'Het'wa. Be warned, Klingon-speaking squirrels.