

Dear Quincy University community:

This message is the forty-first 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, you could search them out in your email folders or read them at <https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/>. Unless there are major developments tomorrow, the next Quincy University update will be emailed to you on Thursday, April 30.

The QU coronavirus website also includes a link to our Q&A document, which was updated on April 24.

A total of 39 COVID-19 cases have been reported in the Quincy region (i.e., Adams County), 23 of whom are considered recovered. Some of these cases spread within households. There are two current hospitalizations in Adams County linked to COVID-19. One Missouri resident has died in Adams County of causes related to COVID-19.

There are now 48,102 COVID-19 cases in Illinois, with the great majority of those cases in the Chicago area. 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>. These QU updates on COVID-19 cases are taken from the public reports of state and county agencies.

There currently are 7,303 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Missouri.

Both Illinois and Missouri are now operating under stay-at-home orders. The Illinois order is now scheduled to last until the end of the day on Saturday, May 30. The Missouri order will last until the end of the day on Sunday, May 3.

QU residential keys are traveling across the globe! Thank you to those of you who have already mailed your residential keys back to us if you were not able to turn them in in-person. From Galesburg, IL, to Jamaica, and all the way from Croatia, it has been enormously helpful to get these keys back and not have this additional work fall on our facilities staff.

Andrea Gruger excitedly checks the mail every day in the hopes that Dr. Tracy can eliminate a work order for key control and eliminate an unnecessary charge for a QU student.

The last day of full-semester courses is this Friday, May 1. Good luck with those final exams, papers, and projects, Hawks. We are rooting for you!

When we read this sentence, it feels like we walked 500 miles, and then we walked 500 more. Please go along with us on this: Each of us needs to wash hands for 20 seconds, use hand sanitizer, and maintain a physical distance of six feet when we must be out in public.

In addition to physical distancing, the CDC recommends the use in public places of simple cloth face coverings to reduce COVID-19 infections. Beginning on May 1, those of us in Illinois will be required to use face coverings in public when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

If Illinois is making important new clothing rules, President McGee suggests the state also eliminate a few bad fashion choices. The Land of Lincoln would be *much* better off if we could ban Crocs, for starters.

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/>. Surely someone out there can spare a few moments from final projects to become President McGee's 380th Twitter follower. Someone? Anyone?

Since 1995, April 28 has been "National Superhero Day" in the U.S. Not surprisingly, this designation was the brainchild of the clever corporate lackeys at Marvel Comics. Still, we can all celebrate our own superheroes today. Now would be a good time to call or text the heroes in your lives and tell them how much we appreciate them.

Rather than celebrating a superhero day, President McGee will be getting excited about May 8, when QU originally planned to hold Baccalaureate. May 8 is also the eleventh anniversary of the U.S. theatrical release for the *Star Trek* movie that rebooted the franchise. You know, the movie that created the alternate-universe Kelvin timeline. And, let's be clear: Some of you know exactly what President McGee is talking about. Don't pretend otherwise.

It's another great day to be a Hawk, wherever you are. Live long and prosper, in peace and unity.

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