

Dear Quincy University community:

This message is the twenty-eighth 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 revised on March 27 and will next be updated on Friday, April 10. The updated Q&A document will contain new information on multiple topics, including the question of room-and-board refunds.

Registration for QU summer and fall classes opened last week. If you aren't registered already, now's the time.

In addition to seven COVID-19 cases that previously had been reported in the Quincy region (i.e., Adams County), four new cases were confirmed earlier today. To the best of our knowledge, none of these 11 cases 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 12,262 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. 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 2,722 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Missouri.

The state of Missouri has announced a stay-at-home order, which took effect today, April 6. Illinois, including Quincy, continues to operate under a stay-at-home order that took effect on March 21 and is now scheduled to last until the end of the day on Thursday, April 30.

To review, 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 and for the summer terms. QU's spring commencement ceremony has been postponed to a later date.

Tomorrow, Tuesday, April 7, at 1:30 p.m., Dr. Kimberly Hale and Dr. Jonathan Miles will speak on the ethics and science of COVID-19 via Google Meets. The title of their talk: "Is Ordering Takeout Unethical?" Information on joining this session was emailed to students, faculty, and staff this morning by Dr. Tracy. In addition to serious questions about COVID-19, Dr. Miles should be asked for his equally serious thoughts on nerd cred and the opening credits for *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*.

In summarizing Aristotle, Will Durant (1926) famously suggested that excellence "is not an act but a habit." So, let's cultivate some outstanding habits and be super excellent: 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 now recommends the use in public places of simple cloth face coverings to reduce COVID-19 infections.

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](http://www.quincy.edu) and at <https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/>.

Thank you, Hawks, for your continued good wishes and patience with these updates. Incredibly, there have been 28 of these updates, exactly twice as many updates as there have been Star Wars movies released between 1977 and 2019. As we are sure you have observed, our updates have been characterized by competent writing and the complete absence of space-alien flatulence jokes. That's more than can be said for the *Star Wars* franchise.

President McGee has been patient, but he will no longer consider student or faculty praise of Star Wars until someone supplies a compelling defense of the 1978 *Star Wars Holiday Special*. Good luck with that.

May your sleep be deep and restful, Hawks. And, please, always aspire to hand-washing super-excellence. Mystic Hawk soap isn't required.

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