Dear faculty and staff,

Some of you have already received the below and others were inadvertently left out of this internal communication from the President earlier this week. Please forgive this unintended oversight as well as any redundancy. Please note that as of the resending of this email, neither student has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

On March 11, 2020, Clayton State University was notified that two students were exposed to COVID-19 at an off-campus location. The students self-quarantined at home, off-campus and self-monitored for symptoms. On March 17th, 2020, one of the exposed students developed symptoms of COVID-19 and is undergoing treatment at a local hospital. If the student tests positive for COVID-19, DPH will then determine who needs to be contacted.

The overall risk of COVID-19 to students at Clayton State University is low. However, the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) will contact anyone who may have been in close contact with either of these students and who may be at risk of exposure.

The best prevention measures for any respiratory virus, including COVID-19 are:

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Put distance between yourself and other people.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home especially when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

While we understand the concerns and fear around COVID-19, it is extremely important that students stay calm and not panic. The symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough and shortness of breath. Most cases of COVID-19 are mild with symptoms similar to a cold.

If you have had contact with someone who is suspected to have COVID-19, stay home and monitor yourself for symptoms for 14 days. If you develop fever, cough and shortness of breath, call your health care provider or local health department right away. Be sure to call before going to a doctor’s office, emergency room, or urgent care center.
and tell them about and your symptoms.

To reiterate, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in students at Clayton State University at this time. We will provide updates as we learn more.