

**Subject:** Update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

**Date:** Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 9:47:18 AM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Tim Hynes

**To:** Tim Hynes

Dear campus community,

I want to personally assure you that the health and safety of our campus community is our top priority. Senior leadership continues to closely monitor reports regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and is in the process of reviewing contingency plans in the event that Clayton State University is impacted. At this time, according to the Georgia Department of Public Health, the immediate health risk to the U.S. public is considered low. Campus is currently operating as usual and classes are meeting.

Symptoms of COVID-19 infection include fever, cough and shortness of breath. Severity of symptoms can span from asymptomatic or mild illness to severe illness that may require hospitalization.

The Georgia Department of Public Health has released the following measures individuals should take to prevent the spread of any respiratory virus:

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that includes at least 60% alcohol.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Stay home when you are sick.

Cough or sneeze into your elbow or use a tissue to cover it, then throw the tissue in the trash.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The attached flyer, provided by the Centers for Disease Control, outlines additional information regarding COVID-19.

We are continuing to receive and share further guidance from the University System of Georgia and Georgia Department of Public Health as it relates to COVID-19. Outbreaks involving coronaviruses can evolve quickly and recommendations from public health officials may change frequently as new information becomes available. Please check the following websites often for updated information:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Georgia Department of Public Health website: <https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus>

The university will provide updates as they become available. Please look out for future messages coming from the email account [campusalerts@clayton.edu](mailto:campusalerts@clayton.edu).

Dr. Thomas Hynes  
President