

**To: La Roche University Community**

**From: Office of the Provost**

**Subject: Update on University Coronavirus Actions**

**Date: Feb. 28, 2020**

Dear Campus Community:

I am writing to update you on the steps La Roche University is taking to monitor the evolving worldwide Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and prepare for the safety and wellbeing of our students, faculty, staff and visitors.

Our Coronavirus Response Committee meets regularly to discuss COVID-19 and takes proactive steps to minimize exposure and risk for our campus community here in Pittsburgh, as well as our students and employees currently abroad in Rome.

La Roche protocol is to follow the recommendations and advice of the U.S. State Department and the Center for Disease Control (CDC), which currently does not have travel advisories for the countries of our current and upcoming programs. For the most up-to-date information regarding COVID-19, and for recommendations on how to best protect yourself and others, I encourage you to visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

On-site courses at our La Roche in Rome program are running regularly, and we communicate daily with those students and faculty. Rome is located far from the outbreaks reported in Northern Italy. We have made adjustments to group excursions to avoid “hotspots” in Italy, and students have been advised on these precautions as they prepare for their own spring break travel.

At this time all Study Abroad + Study USA programs for the spring semester will remain as scheduled.

Following the advice of the U.S. State Department and the CDC, La Roche has placed China and South Korea on the restricted list for University-affiliated international travel for students, faculty and staff.

La Roche will continue to vigilantly monitor the evolving situation, and make decisions based on the best information available and with the health and safety of our community the primary focus. The University will notify the campus community immediately if any significant changes in plans or protocols develop.

Respectfully,

***Howard J. Ishiyama, Ph.D.***

***Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs***