Students, trainees, faculty and staff,

As I’m sure you’re aware, there has been one confirmed case of COVID-19 within the university community. The individual did everything right and wasn’t on campus while exhibiting symptoms. This combined with the closure and cleaning of certain facilities significantly reduces the risk of transmission. For more information, read President McCauley’s message from Mar. 16.

The rest of the university, including Foothills campus remains open. University of Calgary and Cumming School of Medicine leadership is assessing the situation daily.

Learn and work from home

- While the university remains open, I want those of you who can work from home to do so.
- We’ll continue to teach, do research and provide services in ways that are safe and practical.
- If you’re unsure of how to continue learning or working in a safe and effective manner, please speak with your instructor or supervisor. Every group has been asked to prepare a business continuity plan, which will assist in making these decisions.

Education

- Undergraduate Medical Education and Bachelor of Health Sciences classes began remote delivery today, Mar. 17. Thank you to our educational leaders for their tremendous work during this transition.
- UCalgary is working closely with the University of Alberta on a workforce plan for residents.
- For an update on each of the CSM’s education programs, review the Mar. 16 update.

Research operations

- It’s expected that many research activities will continue, particularly if they’re critical to the maintenance of research programs and your core infrastructure.
- Key considerations for all researchers and more specific recommendations for researchers in different settings (i.e. wet labs, dry labs, clinical areas or community-based settings) can be found on the research website.

Travellers outside of Canada

- UCalgary has recommended that individuals outside of the country for work-related business return while flights are still available. This is a result of Government of Canada policy changes regarding travel into Canada. Learn more.
Facilities

- PurEatery (formerly known as On the Go) has modified their hours. The new hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

For information between updates, visit the CSM’s web page, UCalgary’s website or Alberta Health Services’ website.

Please continue to send your questions or concerns to csmdean@ucalgary.ca, and a member of the CSM leadership team will follow-up with you.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this challenging time. I’m grateful to work with such a dedicated, talented group of people.

Sincerely,

Jon Meddings, MD
Dean, Cumming School of Medicine
University of Calgary