To: Faculty and Staff  
From: Juanita Mottley, Director of WellCat Health Center  

I know we’ve all been watching the unfolding global coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak with concern. Chico State’s primary commitment continues to be the safety, health, and well-being of our entire campus community.

As we shared on Friday, the University has been actively monitoring the outbreak since December. In concert with the Chancellor’s Office and following suit with other CSU campuses, Chico State recently activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on a limited basis to continue our proactive planning for responding to the unlikely possibility COVID-19 should impact our campus.

But it’s not just Chico State’s emergency and health care personnel who play a role in helping the campus be prepared. Faculty and staff, too, can help keep the campus safe.

Here’s what you can do to help:

- **Know the signs.** Symptoms reported for patients with COVID-19 include mild to severe respiratory illness with fever, cough, and difficulty breathing.

  For complete information about the coronavirus, how to reduce your risk of being infected, and how to relieve symptoms if you get infected, visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov) (CDC), [American Public Health Association](https://www.apha.org) (APHA) or [World Health Organization](https://www.who.int) (WHO).

- **Stay home.** If students or employees you come into contact with are experiencing any of these coronavirus symptoms, tell them to self-isolate until their symptoms go away and/or call their health care provider to get guidance.

  Students experiencing symptoms should call the WellCat Health Center at 530-898-5241 for instructions. Outside of WellCat Health Center hours, students should contact Enloe Medical Center at 800-822-8102 if they feel they may have been exposed to an infectious disease.

  Likewise, should you start to experience symptoms, stay home and call your health care provider or Butte County Public Health at 530-552-4000.

- **Benefit of the doubt.** For faculty who have students reporting absences due to symptoms, please give them the benefit of the doubt and not pressure them to provide medical notes when they are following the recommendations of medical experts to stay home.
Chico State asks students to self-isolate, and anyone experiencing symptoms should not visit a medical provider to seek a diagnosis or note. They’re not only potentially exposing others, but they themselves are in a vulnerable state and risk contracting additional illnesses.

- **Success despite sickness.** Faculty should be prepared to accommodate students who get sick and should stay home with the resources needed to succeed academically. This may take a little extra effort and creative thinking on the part of faculty, but it’s the University’s goal to not let illness be a barrier to academic achievement.

- **Additional resources.** Chico State continues to update our [coronavirus web page](https://www.csuchico.edu/coronavirus), which includes background about COVID-19; preventive measures for avoiding infection; how Chico State is responding to the COVID-19 threat; and other critical information for students, faculty, and staff. We will soon be adding an FAQ.

  For more information, visit the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) (fact sheet | Spanish | Chinese), [APHA](https://www.apha.org), or [WHO](https://www.who.int).  

If you have questions about Chico State’s coronavirus response, please contact our EOC directly: [eoc@csuchico.edu](mailto:eoc@csuchico.edu).

Thank you for your cooperation, patience, and vigilance. Take good care of yourself and those around you.