March 19, 2020  2:19 PM

Dear Purdue study abroad student:

This is an urgent message from Purdue University, urging you to depart your host country as soon as possible and return home. You, along with your emergency contacts, are receiving this message because you are in registration status for the Purdue-WL spring 2020 semester. (Some students have previously reached home, but all are nonetheless receiving this message.)

In conjunction with the Purdue Provost as well as the Dean of International Programs, all Purdue-WL students on study abroad programs anywhere in the world are hereby directed to depart if they have not already. Because of increasingly strict country-specific travel restrictions, coupled with the forthcoming Level-4 Travel Advisory to be issued by the US Department of State, Purdue University senior leadership is exercising this mandatory instruction immediately.

[1] ITINERARY: Regarding your travel plans (including confirmation of being completed), either [a] ONLINE please log into your My Study Abroad page and update the “online travel itinerary form” with final return travel plans. Ideally this would be updated per any ongoing changes. Alternatively, [b] EMAIL (particularly if you have difficulty with the above) directly to me or your ongoing study abroad advisor to provide your return information and status.

[2] FLIGHT REIMBURSEMENT DETAILS: Each student will receive forthcoming instructions about submitting a level of airfare travel expenses for review. For those on co-sponsored programs, the first instructions and possibilities should be pursued from your program staff. For those on two-way exchange programs directly through only Purdue, the key instruction that changing (not cancelling) an existing return ticket should first be pursued.

[3] ENROLLMENT Your enrollment status at Purdue remains with your being in spring semester registration. Specific instructions will be conveyed to students about options for remote continuance according to the specific semester program. Many programs and partner institutions have plans for remote learning and/or on-line course delivery. Hence we are hopeful that many will be able to continue studies from the U.S. or other home locations.

[4] IMMEDIACY: Most importantly, I would urge you to make travel plans immediately, if you have not already. With ongoing and forthcoming travel restrictions in several countries, coupled with flight scarcities and other uncertainty, you are directed to return home at your most immediate opportunity. Please act quickly.

For those returning to the United States, note the following important information from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This includes Travel Recommendations by Country (particularly being mindful of the parallel Purdue self-quarantine requirement for those arriving from Level-3 destinations, as relevant) as well as the practice of social distancing as referenced in the Global COVID-19 Outbreak Notice.

Thank you for your immediate attention and perseverance to complete the task of returning home.

Sincerely,

Brian Harley

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Brian D. Harley, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, International Programs;
Director, Programs for Study Abroad