MSUM continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation closely. To date, there have been no positive cases of COVID-19 reported at any Minnesota State college or university or at the system office.

At this time, operations on our campus will continue as normal and we’ll assess our plans on a daily basis. Minnesota State Chancellor Devinder Malhotra shared a memo with campuses today, noting that the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) does not recommend tele-learning or closures for Minnesota universities at this time. You can read the full memo on the Minnesota State website.

Although we currently have no plans to cancel classes or close campuses, we are working with faculty to develop options should circumstances warrant this action. For example, some classes or programs may be moved to alternate instructional means so that teaching may continue. Our goal will be to accommodate students and help them continue their education despite interruptions caused by COVID-19.

As you know, suspension of Minnesota State-related international travel went into effect on February 28. Although Minnesota State-related domestic travel is not suspended at this time, we are carefully assessing the potential risks of domestic travel plans including the consideration of the conditions of destination communities and travel hubs. Prior to traveling or making plans to travel domestically, travel plans are to be discussed with your division leader in order to ensure that final decisions are made using the most current and up-to-date information as possible.

For more information:

- **Guidelines from MDH:** Information that MDH is making available for schools, colleges and universities is available on their website.
- **Info from Minnesota State:** The latest information on the Minnesota State response to the COVID-19 outbreak is available on their website.
- **Updates from MSUM.** You can find the latest updates on our website.

Please remember you can help prevent the spread of the virus by:

- Practicing respiratory (coughing and sneezing) etiquette
- Washing your hands
- Staying at home when you’re sick

I will continue to serve as the primary contact on our campus and I will continue to send email updates as we know more about the impact of COVID-19. Please send me any questions you have. If you need support, the State of Minnesota Employee Assistance Program (EAP) LifeMatters website or EAP LifeMatters consultants are available by phone at 651-259-3840 or 1-800-657-3719.

Jean Hollaar
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