

The message below is being sent on behalf of Meredith President Jo Allen.

Meredith Community,

As you have likely heard from news reports, there has been an outbreak in China of a respiratory illness caused by a new coronavirus (2019-nCoV). While the virus was first detected in Wuhan City, all of China has been designated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a Restricted Travel Area since January 27, 2020.

Meredith offices, including Health Services and International Programs, are working with local, state, and national agencies, to monitor the outbreak and any potential impacts to our community.

Meredith's health services director emphasizes CDC guidance that the virus poses little risk to the U.S. and specifically to our campus. Currently, if you have not visited or had close contact with someone who has visited the affected region, you are not at risk of exposure to the illness. No person-to-person spread has been detected with this virus at the present time, and the virus is not currently spreading in the community in the United States.

International Programs staff have been in touch with Meredith students and visiting scholars from the affected regions in China and will continue to offer support. In keeping with CDC recommendations, College-sponsored travel to China by students, faculty, and staff has been suspended until further notice. There are no Meredith College faculty-led study abroad programs traveling to China during summer or fall 2020. Faculty, staff, and students planning to travel should monitor the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) and [CDC](#) websites to stay up-to-date on the coronavirus and affected areas.

Thank you for your attention to the information in this and any subsequent message regarding this concerning virus.

Jo Allen, '80
President, Meredith College