



## MEMORANDUM

To: All Faculty & Staff

From: Kenneth G. Furton, Provost and Executive Vice President

Date: March 17, 2020

Subject: Suspension of International Scholar and Delegation Visits

Due to the rapid spread of COVID-19 virus cases, now a pandemic across the globe, and to protect our university and local community, we would like to ensure that such scholarly visits are cancelled or conducted according to government and institutional mandates and best public health practices.

As the CDC has issued an Alert Level 2, [Global COVID-19 Outbreak Notice](#), due to sustained community spread, and the State of Florida is taking drastic community measures, which includes [remote instruction at FIU until at least April 4](#), **international scholar and delegation visits are suspended** through the remainder of the Spring semester.

### Upcoming Visits:

- We ask that you immediately notify your respective visiting international scholar or delegation liaison of this institutional restriction. To the extent possible, we encourage you to find alternate means for scholarly collaboration and meetings with your international partner. We recognize that this will not be possible in all cases and hope that your partners will be able to postpone their visit to FIU to a time when the public health threat has passed.
- Please remain in contact with your departmental HR liaison about the cancellation/postponement of visiting scholar visits and with your college administration regarding delegations.
- In terms of visiting scholars, please ask your partner to work with his/her sponsoring organization to request a postponement to a later time. Also, if the airfare for travel to the U.S. has already been booked, your partner should contact the airline to request a credit towards a future flight in order to not incur a loss.

### Current Visits:

- Should your visiting international scholars already have entered the U.S./be at FIU at this time, please confirm his/her presence sending an email to Barbara Bormey [bbormey@fiu.edu](mailto:bbormey@fiu.edu) so that we can maintain accurate institutional and immigration records.

- Should you have any questions or concerns about international delegation visits, please contact Gitta Montoto [gmontoto@fiu.edu](mailto:gmontoto@fiu.edu) in FIU Global. If you have questions about visiting scholars contact Dr. Alejandra Parra [alejandra.parra@fiu.edu](mailto:alejandra.parra@fiu.edu) in the Office of Global Mobility.

We understand that this suspension potentially causes hardship to your international partners and you. However, this mandate is in alignment with other international travel restrictions intended to give you and your visitors the ability to plan.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Gitta Montoto [gmontoto@fiu.edu](mailto:gmontoto@fiu.edu) in FIU Global, or Barbara Bormey [bbormey@fiu.edu](mailto:bbormey@fiu.edu) in the Office of International Student & Scholar Services.

Please continue consulting the [FIU Coronavirus webpage](#) for the latest information as well as instructions on how to self-quarantine and other useful links on how to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Our [frequently asked questions page](#) is updated daily with the latest information on university operations and other important news.