March 12, 2020

Dear International Community,

As you are aware, the presidents of The Claremont Colleges released announcements on Wednesday afternoon regarding the steps the Colleges are and will be taking next to limit the spreading of COVID-19.

We have been processing this information alongside you and would like to provide you with some updates and important information as many of you make decisions on whether you will stay on campus or travel home.

**International Place is open.** Our staff will be working and conducting business, as usual, and will be available for questions by email, phone, and in-person. We are open Monday - Friday from 9 AM - 5 PM.

**We will be holding drop-in hours today and tomorrow from 1:30 to 5:00 PM.** We understand that this could be a stressful and emotional time for our community. We would like to make ourselves available to answer questions and provide support during this time.

**International Place in-person events are canceled for the remainder of the semester.** This includes the Universal Studios trip, International Festival, and our weekly Coffee & Company event. A decision on International Graduation will be made at a later date. We will also be unable to take an reservations to use I-Place for an event for the rest of the semester.

**We are currently brainstorming ideas to ensure that our community stays connected.** Keep an eye out for our weekly newsletter where we will continue to provide regular updates and news about forthcoming virtual programs.

**Speak to your international student advisor about specific questions related to your immigration status.** You have likely received emails from your [International Student Advisor](mailto:internationalstudentadvisor@claremont.edu) regarding the implications of Wednesday's announcements. We encourage you to check in with your advisor if you have any concerns, especially if you are planning to leave the US for the remainder of the semester.

**Be sure to monitor your email for important updates from your college for more information.** While the undergraduate campuses are encouraging students to move off of campus, international students are able to request to stay. Make sure to review your campus's announcement (links below) for instructions on how to make these requests.

**If you are departing the US soon, please continue to monitor travel restrictions.** At the moment, there are restrictions for non-US citizens to enter the US if they have visited China or Iran within 14 days of reentry. There has also been a recent announcement confirming travel from the European Schengen area to the US will be suspended for the next 30 days. Keep up to date on the [US Department of State](https://travel.state.gov) and [NAFSA](https://www.nafsa.org) websites.

If you have questions or concerns regarding traveling or in general about the COVID-19 announcements, you can speak with International Place staff, your [International Student Advisor](mailto:internationalstudentadvisor@claremont.edu), or the Dean of Students staff at your campus.

Take good care,

Chrystral, Jenna, and Erika
*International Place*

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