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To: CSU Campuses
From: Zachary Gifford, Associate Director
Systemwide Risk Management
Date: August 23, 2014
RE: Monitoring of the Ebola Outbreak

The Chancellor's Office is closely monitoring the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued Level 3 travel warnings to avoid all nonessential travel to the three West African nations of Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone due to the current Ebola outbreak. These travel warnings indicate the worsening situation in West Africa, which began in Guinea in December of 2013 and has since spread to Liberia, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone. The World Health Organization (WHO) recently declared this Ebola outbreak in West Africa as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).

There are currently no known cases of Ebola transmission within the United States. The risk of contracting Ebola is considered extremely low unless a person has had direct contact with blood or other body fluids (or items contaminated with such fluids) of a live or dead person or animal infected with the virus.

Members of the CSU community are strongly encouraged to heed the CDC's cautions regarding travel in affected countries. Travelers returning from this region are being advised by the CDC as follows:

"Persons returning from an affected area but have not had direct contact with the body fluids of symptomatic infected persons or animals, or objects that have been contaminated with body fluids, should monitor their health for 10 days. Those with a potential exposure should monitor their health for 21 days post exposure.

Regardless, any traveler who becomes ill, even if only a fever, should consult a

CSU Campuses
Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

health-care provider **immediately** and tell him or her about their recent travel and potential contacts.”

We will continue to monitor the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and will provide updates to the CSU community as new information becomes available. While the risk of an Ebola outbreak in the United States is low, it is still recommended that campuses take this opportunity to review their infectious disease plans and procedures should an outbreak of Ebola or any other infectious disease occur. If you would like a copy of the Pandemic Influenza Plan Assessment report for your campus, conducted by Witt O’Brien’s in 2007, do not hesitate to contact me.

For additional information on the current Ebola outbreak, please visit the following links:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever](#)
- World Health Organization: [Ebola Virus Disease \(EVD\)](#)