March 2, 2020

**UPDATE: CUNY Guidance Regarding the 2019 Coronavirus**

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

CUNY continues to update the University community regarding the 2019 Coronavirus (COVID-19). In doing so, it is following the recommendations of the New York State Department of Health, the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in addition to the CDC. These agencies are reliable, official sources for the latest information on the COVID-19 virus and on effective steps to take to prevent illness.

If you click the above link, you will see that one CUNY focus is on students who are currently studying in other countries, either as part of study abroad programs or for individual studies and research. Baruch has a substantial number of students currently studying abroad, and we are adhering strictly to the guidelines developed by CUNY. In recent days, we have been in direct contact with all affected students to determine the best plan of action for each one.

CUNY is fully monitoring the course of COVID-19, and will be communicating regularly with updates on the spread of the disease and on any CUNY responses that might be warranted. Here at Baruch, we are exploring various options and procedures, including alternative class-delivery methods, which could be put in place if the situation warranted. But these decisions are not under active consideration at the present time, and they likely would be taken only on a CUNY-wide basis.
For now, we encourage you to continue with business as usual and monitor CUNY’s website for updates as well as the latest links to the city, state, and federal agencies that are tracking COVID-19 and issuing preventative protocols. Please use this information as you plan your activities on campus and bear in mind that this is a time for caution, vigilance and concern for others in our community, and not a time for panic or stigmatization.

The safety and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff is our highest priority. We will continue to send you any additional guidance and updates as the situation requires.

Sincerely,

Mitchel B. Wallerstein
President