

Dear Quincy University community:

This message is the thirty-sixth update on Quincy University's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are a member of the QU community and have not read the previous update messages, we encourage you to search them out in your email folders or read them at <https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/>. Unless there are major developments tomorrow, the next Quincy University update will be emailed to you on Monday, April 20.

The QU coronavirus website also includes a link to our Q&A document, which was updated on Friday, April 10. The updated Q&A document contains new information on multiple topics, including the question of room-and-board refunds.

A total of 30 COVID-19 cases have been reported in the Quincy region (i.e., Adams County), five of whom are considered recovered. Some of these 30 cases spread within households. There currently have been no deaths in Adams County, with three current hospitalizations in the county linked to COVID-19.

There are now 29,160 COVID-19 cases in Illinois, with the great majority of those cases in the Chicago area. More information about COVID-19 cases in Illinois, including county-by-county reports, is available at <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx>.

There currently are 5,517 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Missouri.

Both Illinois and Missouri are now operating under stay-at-home orders. The Illinois order is now scheduled to last until the end of the day on Thursday, April 30.

We have had several inquiries about when commencement might be rescheduled. It is highly unlikely that we will have any new information in the next few weeks about the new commencement date. As noted previously, QU's Spring 2020 commencement will be rescheduled and held in Quincy whenever the state of Illinois allows us to plan for an event of this size.

Students in the BRCN nursing programs should seek out information from BRCN about their virtual commencement on May 8, 2020. A message from President McGee, complete with academic regalia and bow tie, will be part of the BRCN virtual ceremony.

While the worrisomely large number of squirrels on the QU campus don't need this information, the humans do: Each of us needs to wash hands for 20 seconds, use hand sanitizer, and maintain a physical distance of six feet when we must be out in public. We're counting on you to do your part, Hawks.

In addition to physical distancing, the CDC recommends the use in public places of simple cloth face coverings to reduce COVID-19 infections. While anyone can devise a basic mask out of an old tee shirt and rubber bands, the fashion-conscious among us can turn to GQ for designer assistance with mask selection: <https://www.gq.com/story/where-to-buy-face-masks>. Enjoy.

If you are looking for more campus news, you are encouraged to follow @Quincy_U and @Quincy_UMcGee on Twitter. Resources are always available at www.quincy.edu and at <https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/>. President McGee's 711th tweet features a picture of the largest QU squirrel yet, who has taken up residence in the president's backyard. President McGee anticipates a future battle for QU leadership with the backyard squirrel queen, who clearly is not respecting the president's authority. Fortunately, hawks see squirrels as prey. Be warned, squirrel queen!

We continue to pray for all those who are infected with the COVID-19 virus, for their family and friends, and for those suffering because of the effects of this global pandemic. No matter how far you might be from Quincy or the QU campus, know that the Franciscan friars and other members of the QU community are praying for you.

As they would say in St. Francis's Assisi, *buona notte*.

Sincerely,
Dr. Brian McGee, President
Dr. Christine Tracy, Vice President for Student Development

P.S. This update includes a brazen and obvious reference to *South Park* (second season, fourth episode). If you didn't recognize the reference, Hawks, please brush up on your cultural literacy.