Dear Quincy University community:

This message is the forty-second 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, you could search them out in your email folders or read them at https://www.quincy.edu/coronavirus/.

In anticipation of the semester's end and a reduced number of students and other community members regularly following QU news, the pandemic email updates for May and June will appear on Monday of each week for those months and on other days of the week as needed. Unless there are major developments tomorrow or over the weekend, the next Quincy University update will be emailed to you on Monday, May 4.

The QU coronavirus website also includes a link to our Q&A document, which was last updated on April 24.

A total of 40 COVID-19 cases have been reported in the Quincy region (i.e., Adams County), 25 of whom are considered recovered. Some of these cases spread within households. There is one current hospitalization in Adams County linked to COVID-19. One Missouri resident has died in Adams County of causes related to COVID-19, as has one Adams County resident.

There are now 52,918 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. These QU updates on COVID-19 cases are taken from the public reports of state and county agencies.

There currently are 7,562 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 Saturday, May 30. The Missouri order will last until the end of the day on Sunday, May 3.

Any students who are seeking financial assistance for summer school need to complete an application for summer aid. Students can find the application on their portal site. If you have any questions, please reach out to staff in the Office of Student Financial Services at extension 217.228.5260 or at financialaid@quincy.edu.

Tomorrow, Friday, May 1, as previously announced, is the last day for students to withdraw or to select one course for Pass/Fail. Either action can be initiated on the Portal. Additionally, the last day of full-semester courses is tomorrow, Friday, May 1. Good luck with those final exams, papers, and projects, Hawks. We are rooting for you!

In Chumbawamba's immortal ode for the ages, "Tubthumping," we learn what happens when we get knocked down, in a lyric repeated an amazing 28 times. You know the song, which, thanks to us, you now may be singing or humming for much of the day tomorrow. Sadly, we've felt

compelled to beat Chumbawamba's repetition record with this reminder: 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. And, yes, we'd rather listen to "Tubthumping" than to Toto's "Africa." It's not a close call.

In addition to physical distancing, the CDC recommends the use in public places of simple cloth face coverings to reduce COVID-19 infections. Beginning tomorrow, May 1, those of us in Illinois will be required to use face coverings in public when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

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 appreciates all those QU devotees among his 381 followers on Twitter, including the two who signed up after he repeatedly asked for someone to become follower #380. Thanks for taking pity on him.

Finally, Fr. John Doctor has sought to defend the dubious merits of campus squirrels by celebrating the unintended acorn-planting of these greedy little creatures. Far be it from us to second-guess a beloved religious leader and Franciscan Friar, but President McGee continues to insist that we must remain vigilant and stand guard against the sinister intentions of the squirrel queen. Beware!

Sing a song that reminds you of the best times, Hawks. Good night!

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian McGee, President

Dr. Christine Tracy, Vice President for Student Development