

Dear Quincy University community:

Let's get right to it.

This message is the forty-eighth 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/>.

The next Quincy University update will be emailed to you no later than Monday, June 15. On that day, we will give more information about the academic calendar and the start of the next academic year at QU, along with some other information about safety measures and procedures for coming to campus and heading to classes during the 2020 Fall Semester.

A total of 43 COVID-19 cases have been reported in the Quincy region (i.e., Adams County), 42 of whom are considered recovered. Some of these cases spread within households. There are two current hospitalizations 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. If you are thinking these Adams County numbers haven't changed much in recent weeks, you would be right.

There are now 128,415 COVID-19 cases in Illinois. 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 14,734 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Missouri.

Illinois and Missouri no longer have stay-at-home orders, but some restrictions are in effect for everyday life in both states. Restaurants in Missouri are open. Restaurants in Illinois are open but only permit outdoor dining.

If you have not already returned your textbooks from the 2020 Spring Semester, you should have received one or more phone calls from us on this important requirement. Thanks for working quickly to help us get these books back to campus. Our goal is that not a single student has to be charged for failing to return a book. If you are contacted about book returns and think we have made a mistake, please be patient and work with us to track down the source of the problem.

Most campus offices at QU are now physically open. However, face-to-face meetings require an appointment, which must be made in advance. Facemasks are required for all meetings and in campus buildings.

As noted in earlier announcements, students should file the 2020-2021 FAFSA to renew federal and state financial aid and be considered for the next round of CARES funding, which will happen early in the fall semester.

If you have been in a restroom on the QU campus, you've seen more than one version of this same announcement, which applies to all of us: 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.

In addition to physical distancing, the CDC recommends the use in public places of simple cloth face coverings to reduce COVID-19 infections. Those of us in Illinois are now required to use face coverings in public when physical distancing cannot be maintained. For many months to come, students and others at QU should expect to wear facemasks in all public spaces on campus. Dr. Tracy and President McGee will be wearing their masks, and we need you to do so as well when you are on campus.

If you are looking for campus news over the summer, 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 has 399 followers and is now looking for that lucky 400th Twitter follower, who will earn the respect and admiration of her or his peers.

George Orwell's famous dystopian novel, *1984*, was published on this date, 71 years ago. As much as we admire the novel and believe it deserves to be widely read, we recommend some more uplifting reading for these troubled times. For those of us who are Christian or Jewish, a meditation on Leviticus 19:18 would be an appropriate choice, though not necessarily an easy one. Unlike *1984*, Leviticus 19:18 gives us the conditions for justice, peace, and, God willing, a happier ending. (For another meditation, Quran 3:92 is noteworthy.)

Be safe, Hawks.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian McGee, President

Dr. Christine Tracy, Vice President for Student Development