Cardinal Family,

UofL is closely monitoring an outbreak of a new coronavirus (2019-nCoV), which originated in Wuhan, a city in central China. The virus has quickly spread – more than 16 countries now have reported cases. To date, there have been at least five confirmed cases in the U.S., all involving individuals who recently traveled to the U.S. from Wuhan. UofL has no record of students, faculty or staff traveling to central China in the past 14 days, and as of now, there is no known risk to the university community.

Symptoms of the 2019-nCoV virus are similar to those of the flu or even a common cold, including fever and symptoms of lower respiratory illness such as cough and difficulty breathing. In some cases, the virus has led to lower respiratory tract illnesses, including bronchitis and pneumonia.

If you have recently traveled abroad and are experiencing these symptoms, you should see your doctor or call Campus Health Services immediately.

If you are experiencing these symptoms but have not recently traveled to an affected area, you mostly likely have a bad cold or the flu. Campus Health Services has confirmed cases of flu on campus that are unrelated to the coronavirus.

If you think you may have the flu, you can call Campus Health at 502-852-6479 (Belknap) or 502-852-6446 (Health Sciences). Staff at those locations can give you advice about what you can do to treat your illness. For more information, visit the Campus Health Services website.

All members of the UofL community are urged to follow the same strategies they would ordinarily use to protect themselves and others during a normal cold and flu season:

- If you have not gotten a flu shot, get one now
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and warm water, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if you feel sick

For more information on the coronavirus, go to the CDC coronavirus website.

Again, there is no known threat to our campus or community. We will continue to monitor the situation and will update you if we receive information that suggests there is reason for concern.

Beth A. Boehm
Executive Vice President and University Provost