



March 5, 2020

Dear National University Faculty,

Earlier today, President Andrews distributed an update to faculty and staff regarding specific precautions that National University is taking in response to novel coronavirus (COVID-19). As noted in the communication, maintaining the safety and well-being of our faculty, staff, and students is of paramount importance to leadership, and, as such, warrants several precautionary measures to go into effect immediately.

I want to acknowledge and express appreciation for the depth of planning and the amount of time that have gone into planning the Spring Symposium. However, at this time, the decision has been made to postpone the event until August of this year. We are hopeful that the risks associated with COVID-19 will have dissipated by that time and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will have lifted their recommendations on limiting travel.

This decision was made with your safety in mind, as the Spring Symposium would require many faculty members to travel, which could potentially subject them to traveling through high-traffic areas or areas at higher risk of exposure. The core intellectual capital of our faculty is National University's most significant asset. You make a positive impact on our students' lives every day, and at this time, we do not want to risk your well-being by assembling the preponderance of the University's intellectual capacity in one place.

We will closely monitor this situation as it unfolds. In the meantime, we have assembled a task force that is reviewing events scheduled for the next six months and developing criteria to make informed decisions about whether to move forward with, postpone, or cancel specific events. Additional updates will be forthcoming. My hope is that we can continue to treat each other with empathy and kindness as we navigate this together. Please direct any questions to Dr. Joseph Hoey at jhoey@nu.edu or safety@nu.edu.

We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gangaram Singh

Executive Vice President & Provost