

October 16, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents  
FROM: William A. Sederburg  
SUBJECT: H1N1 Flu Preparations

Issue

There is a looming H1N1 pandemic threat facing college and university campuses. Individual campus preparation and system coordination is essential to minimize the virus's impact and disruptive threat to the student learning and campus life experiences.

Background

Under the direction of the Commissioner, and in coordination through the Chief Student Services Officers (CSSOs), each USHE campus has developed a proactive action plan in response to the H1N1 pandemic threat. Conference calls and meetings were held to coordinate efforts, share best practices, and implement suggested strategies by Dr. David N. Sundwall, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Health. Regardless of the final impact of the H1N1 virus, this current situation gives forum to improving campus emergency response planning and system-wide coordination efforts. A post-flu season "lessons learned" communication will be hosted by the Commissioner's staff to prepare for similar types of threats to the student learning and campus life experiences.

A status report will be shared with the Board of Regents regarding the H1N1 situation in Utah as well as to highlight specific features of USHE campus plans and system coordination strategies.

Commissioner's Recommendation

Information item; no action required.

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William A. Sederburg  
Commissioner of Higher Education

WAS/JC/CM