To the Peru State Community:

As Spring Break draws near, I am writing about several important topics.

While there have been no cases of coronavirus diagnosed at Peru State College or the region, the College is preparing for potential concerns. We continue to ask students to practice healthy habits, basic measures remain the best defense against coronavirus, flu and other communicable diseases:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 30 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Note: The CDC has defined close contact as being less than six feet away from a symptomatic person.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

COVID-19 can be a serious illness. We instructed students to not let a lack of health insurance or money keep them from getting necessary healthcare.

These steps remain the best defense against coronavirus, flu, and other communicable diseases.

Given the increased spread of coronavirus in countries such as South Korea, Italy, Japan and the United States in the past week, Peru State College Dean of Students, Matt Thielen, sent a message to all students yesterday evening. I draw your attention to this important guidance for any students who may be thinking of traveling abroad:

The College strongly recommends not traveling to locations with CDC or State Department Level 3 alerts or higher. As of March 2, China, Iran, South Korea and Italy were all listed as having Level 3 alerts by the CDC. The CDC recommends that travelers avoid all nonessential travel to these countries.

The College will continue to actively monitor the progression of the coronavirus around the globe and the United States. As we take steps to keep the community safe, we will communicate with you and your student as needed.

If a member of my staff or I can be of assistance to you or your student, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jesse Dorman
Vice President of Enrollment and Student Affairs