October 7, 2014

Dear Deans, Vice Presidents and Managers:

The University is monitoring events related to the outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in parts of West Africa. Due to this outbreak, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a Travel Warning: “Nonessential travel to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone should be avoided”. Travelers to Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo are advised by the CDC to “practice enhanced precautions”.

Additionally, the U.S. Department of State has issued a Travel Alert on Potential Implications for Travel Because of Ebola in Parts of West Africa. There are also U.S. Department of State Travel Warnings in place for several countries in the greater West Africa region (Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Cameroon); however, only in the cases of Sierra Leone and Liberia was the warning issued because of Ebola.

Given the severity of Ebola in West Africa and the CDC and U.S. Department of State Travel Advisories, all UVa faculty and staff travel to and from countries experiencing the Ebola outbreak (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo) requires notification and approval by a Dean, Vice President, or Designee—with the International Studies Office copied on any approval.

Please remind faculty and staff in your units that they may tap the resources listed below and that they are advised to:

- review UVa Procurement’s Travel Basics and International Travel web pages before they travel;
- make an appointment to visit the UVa Traveler’s Clinic or their personal physician if traveling to tropical or developing areas of the world where vaccinations, medications to prevent malaria and other health measures are necessary;
- enroll in the Medex Plus Travel Assistance Program;
- check the CDC and U.S. Department of State’s resources for travelers; and
- enroll in the STEP program if a U.S. citizen.

Resources:

Travel Basics & International Travel - UVa Procurement & Supplier Diversity Services
UVa Traveler’s Clinic
Medex Plus Travel Assistance Program – Requires enrollment; covers UVa business travel only.

CDC Traveler’s Health
U.S. Department of State Travel Resources
Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) – U.S. Department of State
We will continue to follow the reports and recommendations of the CDC and the U.S. Department of State, and update the community as necessary.

Sincerely yours,

Jeffrey W. Legro, Vice Provost for Global Affairs

Cc:  Teresa A. Sullivan, President
     John D. Simon, Executive Vice President and Provost
     Patrick D. Hogan, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer