

May 14, 2020

Dear students and parents:

We hope you and your families are doing well. During this contingency, we have made several decisions, always taking into consideration what is best for our community. Recently, we have studied closely the current situation of the international mobility programs based on different factors, in which the health and wellbeing of our students and the professors who accompany them are our priority.

We are facing a reality with few certainties about the pandemic's evolution in the world: we have confirmed that a considerable number of Embassies and Consulates remain closed, international flight destinations have been significantly reduced and some airlines have even stopped working at all; the way in which different countries and cities are managing the return to a "new normal" is still uncertain and migratory processes are being redefined by each country; some places have been facing repeat outbreaks, generating new risk scenarios for the safety of our students and professors. Finally, one of the most important considerations is that an increasing number of partner universities are cancelling all their internationalization activities.

For all these reasons, and prioritizing the care of our students and professors, we regret to inform that we've come to the decision of cancelling all the international mobility programs for our students in high school and undergraduate levels already registered for the August-November 2020 term, and for our graduate students registered in the July-November 2020 term. The above-mentioned measures apply both for our students going abroad as well as for the international students coming to our campuses.

We are aware that our international programs are a highly valued experience for many of our students, therefore this has been a difficult but inevitable decision that we've had to take. However, we confirm that it's our intention and hope to resume these programs for the Winter academic term starting in December 2020 and January 2021; we have been working in a creative and deliberate way to make it happen. In the cases of students whose programs require an international experience as part of the graduation requirement, we will contact them shortly to let them know how we will proceed in these and other specific cases.

I am convinced that the situation we're living in nowadays will leave enduring lessons that will make us all even more resilient. I appreciate your understanding of these measures, and I encourage you to continue taking care of your health and paying attention to the sanitary and social distancing measures that will be part of the plan to resume activities we're implementing. I hope we can be together again soon.

David Garza Salazar

Rector