



The University of Vermont

To: Deans, Vice Presidents, Department Chairs, and Directors

From: Patricia A. Prelock, Provost and Senior Vice President

RE: Recalling all UVM Faculty, Staff and Students Abroad

The U.S. Department of State (DOS) has advised U.S. citizens to avoid all international travel due to the global impact of COVID-19. It has also recommended that in countries where commercial departure options remain available, U.S. citizens who live in the United States should arrange for immediate return to the U.S., unless they are prepared to remain abroad for an indefinite period.

We urge all University of Vermont faculty, staff and students who are U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents who are presently abroad to return to the United States immediately. Delaying your return could result in being stranded abroad for an indefinite amount of time, possibly months.

University of Vermont faculty, staff and students who are abroad and who are not U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents are advised to return to their homeland or to the U.S., depending on personal circumstances.

Supervisors and program directors are asked to notify those among their staff, faculty and students who are out of the United States of this advisory.

U.S. citizens abroad should already be enrolled in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program through the US Department of State to:

- Receive important information from the Embassy about safety conditions in your destination country, helping you make informed decisions about your travel plans.
- Help the U.S. Embassy contact you in an emergency, whether natural disaster, civil unrest, or family emergency.
- Help family and friends get in touch with you in an emergency.

If not already enrolled in this program, all UVM faculty, staff or students abroad should enroll [immediately](#). Please encourage those aboard to review what the Department of State [can and can't do in a crisis](#).

Non-U.S. citizens should seek similar guidance from their home government, using applicable channels.

Although the Office of International Education does not usually handle employee matters related to international travel, but in this instance, questions or concerns should be directed to OIE director, Kim Howard at [Kim.Howard@uvm.edu](mailto:Kim.Howard@uvm.edu).