MEMORANDUM

TO:       TSU Community
FROM:     Kenneth Huewitt, Interim President
DATE:     Monday, March 23, 2020
SUBJECT:  TSU Coronavirus Update

TSU Family,

Earlier today, we learned that a member of the Texas Southern University community has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the first confirmed case within our university community. The staff member is symptomatic and is currently hospitalized receiving treatment. Please keep this individual and all the others battling the virus across the nation and worldwide in your thoughts. We wish them a speedy recovery.

TSU is working closely with city and county public health officials to reach out to any students, faculty or staff, as well as others, who may have come into contact with the individual. In accordance with CDC guidelines, these individuals will be placed under a mandatory self-quarantine to monitor for COVID-19 symptoms.

In order to be compliant with the latest COVID-19 guidelines, we are asking our faculty and staff to not report to campus unless you have received approval from your supervisor. Instead, we are asking that employees stay at home and work remotely, based on direction from your supervisor. Only critical business and educational operations will continue on the campus. Those employees and members of the university community who are on campus are advised to practice social distancing and monitor their health according to guidelines provided by the CDC and Harris County Public Health.

The top priority at TSU is the health and safety of our faculty, staff and students. We are closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation and taking all appropriate precautions to safeguard the well-being of our community. This includes following the guidance of the CDC, as well as state, county and city health departments, which, as you know, changes as the situation develops.

It is important for the TSU community to remain calm and continue to practice social distancing, hand washing, self-quarantining if symptomatic, and other protocols that will limit the spread of COVID-19. We know that our faculty and staff are working hard – and most of them remotely – to keep TSU operational throughout this unprecedented situation. Likewise, our students are now working remotely via online instruction to complete their semester.
We appreciate your flexibility, understanding and patience as we work together to get through this. Indeed, we work better together.

As always...GO TIGERS!