

# Global Express

Vol 01 Issue 04 | Mar 20, 2020

\*\* SPECIAL ISSUE \*\*

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## WHAT'S NEW

### ISSGS Virtual Office & Services

We're going virtual! To protect students and staff and minimize the spread of COVID-19, we are providing services differently.

ISSGS will be open Mondays-Fridays, 8:30am-4:00pm. Call or Email to talk with a staff:

**Phone:** 507-537-6018

**Email:** [iss@smsu.edu](mailto:iss@smsu.edu).

There will be no in-person advising; however, Virtual Advising is available. Pick-up and Drop-off of student requests are still being taken behind closed doors.

### Corona Virus COVID-19 Testing

COVID-19 testing is still limited at this time due to lack of testing supplies. Medical providers are expected to make a determination, based on symptoms and risk factors, regarding the need for COVID-19 testing. Refer to this [guidance from the CDC](#) if you are showing symptoms and think you need testing.

SMSU international students can talk to a physician at Teladoc Health by dialing **1-855-870-5858**, 24/7 at no cost if you have questions related to COVID-19. They will need your Student Insurance ID number. For recent graduates, \$40 if they do not have Student Insurance. There is also an **EMOTIONAL SUPPORT LINE** 1-866-342-6892 (Optum Health) for all students.

- If an international student suspects they have been exposed to COVID-19, they are to call UHCSR or visit [www.uhcsr.com/MyAccount](http://www.uhcsr.com/MyAccount) or use their UHCSR mobile app to find a network provider.
- International students can get tested & treated anywhere for the COVID-19 Coronavirus without a referral.
- Testing would be covered and all member cost sharing will be waived, including copays, coinsurance & deductibles, for COVID-19 diagnostic testing provided at approved locations in accordance with CDC guidelines.

### Singapore Story – *The Coronavirus Chronicles*


 Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine  
 THE COVID-19 CHRONICLES  
**"ONLY SERIOUS CASES"**  
 GOARN | 2020 YEARS



Let hospitals attend to the serious cases first. If you have mild flu symptoms and have no recent travel or contact with COVID-19 cases, wear a mask, visit your usual GP and rest at home.

Dr Dale Fisher is Professor in Infectious Disease, NUS, and Chair of the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network, WHO.



Singapore is earning praise as a country that is doing many things right so far in dealing with this pandemic. Of note is their communication strategy to cut through the fake news noise on social media. The National University of Singapore (NUS) School of Medicine developed coronavirus health advisory into serial viral manga/comics as public info campaign targeted at millennials. The comics series which delivers important facts and advice with light-hearted humor, is anchored by Dr. Dale Fisher, Professor in Infectious Disease at NUS, and Chair of the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network, WHO. Now with a million+ views. Read more about Singapore's early intervention efforts [here](#).

## Emergency Contact/Computer Access Survey

Due to an error we are asking that you submit the survey again. We had 90+ responses (thank you!) but no way to know who sent what - our mistake (sorry!). Everyone, please [DO THIS NEW SURVEY](#) – this will take you less than 3 minutes to answer.

Note: An Emergency Contact is someone who will handle your all issues if you are in a serious accident/illness/even death. Please list a responsible family or friend who will be able to serve in this capacity.

## Residence Halls & Dining Services Remain Open

Chartwells is doing their utmost to minimize contact between dining hall patrons with a revamp on how food is served. The self-service bars like fresh fruits, salads, tacos, stir-fry stations are no more self-served to avoid multiple people touching the same serving spoons - a possible coronavirus health risk. Nevertheless, don't forget to get your daily veg and fruits (vitamin C will fortify your immune system) in every meal. Fruits are now available in pre-portioned cups beside the burger condiments station and fresh salads now moved to the tacos station & made full service. Be conscious when you touch items like pop drinks / sauce dispensers where countless others may also be touching.

### Marshall Restaurants Limited Service

All restaurants & bars in Marshall have suspended their dine-in service due to a state-wide directive by MN Gov. Tim Walz to do so for 10 days starting from Tuesday. Most fast food restaurants (eg. McDonalds) may only have Drive-Thru service open while others may have Take-Out only (eg. Hunan Lion) or maybe even totally closed for business. So try using the restaurant App or call ahead to confirm their status before going out.

### Food Service under Self-Isolation/Quarantine

If any of you are sick and/or wish to self-quarantine under doctor's orders in your dorm room, you may request for a meal delivery service or a pickup – to minimize direct human contact. Please also cc/inform your residence hall RAs to get their help to deliver food, packages & mail to your door. We will try our best to get volunteers to make food deliveries on a case-by-case basis.

If you are experiencing concerns about food insecurity at any time, please contact the ISSGS office and we will work to connect you with resources. Also, please continually check your SMSU email for announcements from the SMSU Mustang Market. **Mustang Market** plans to stay open for additional hours in the near future.

## Please Practice Social Distancing – 6 ft.

Do check in on others from a safe distance and by social media. Please do not travel unless it is necessary.

Reminder: If you leave the US, you may not be able to return. Many US Embassies worldwide are closing visa services during this pandemic.

## All Classes Resume **ONLINE** on Monday, March 30

Please check your SMSU emails & D2L for more information from your professors.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 30, Monday

## OPT Workshop (*online*)

3:00 - 4:30pm

online only via ZOOM

Anyone who is graduating in May and interested in pursuing OPT opportunities but missed the 1st OPT Workshop *MUST* attend this workshop presentation to learn about the process for applying and getting approved for OPT. Watch out for our email invites next week with a link to ZOOM (video conferencing) using laptop or phone.

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A publication of the [International Student Services & Global Studies](#)

Student Center 237

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