

Dear Fall 2020 GO Long Students,

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, we are writing to provide an update about plans for GO Long experiences this fall semester and how you can create contingency plans that will set you up for continued academic success.

As you may have heard, on March 19 the U.S. State Department increased the Worldwide [Travel Advisory](#) to a *Level 4: Do Not Travel*. Some other countries are doing the same, as well as closing their borders completely. Like Susquehanna, many of our partner universities have moved to online formats to reduce the coronavirus exposure to their faculty, staff and students.

On March 16, we suspended GO programs through May, and will decide by April 15 if that needs to be extended through summer. We continue to closely monitor developments and how the COVID-19 pandemic may affect us next fall.

So what does this mean for you, Fall 2020 GO Long students?

Unfortunately, the global health emergency creates a lot of uncertainty, and that can be unsettling for us all. While we remain hopeful that we will operate our full complement of GO Long programs this fall, at this time we also advise that you make two plans: one for going abroad next semester; and another for being on campus in the fall. Following are our recommendations to help you prepare.

- **OFFP-Preparations for GO Course**
Your preparations course will the week of March 23 via an online format. This course will prepare you for Fall GO Long (if those plans must be postponed, it will also count toward Spring GO Long).
- **Course Registration**
Continue to work with Monica Leitzel to complete the “green sheet” for your pre-approval of courses at your host institution. At the same time, follow the instructions for live registration that the Registrar’s Office emailed to you on March 19 *as if you were going to be on campus next semester*.
- **GO Long Program Applications**
Many program providers and universities have extended deadlines for applications. Many have also created policies allowing students to withdraw right up until the departure date and without a penalty. Refer to their online materials for the most up-to-date information.
- **Passports**
As of yesterday, U.S. passports are not being issued until the travel advisory is lowered. If you need a passport, please let the GO office know so that we can continue to monitor the situation with you.
- **On-Campus Housing**
The Office of Residence Life will provide you with a housing selection number to select a room for fall 2020 during the housing selection period. When we confirm you will go abroad as planned, you will be removed from the on-campus housing you selected for the fall semester. Housing registration is available on [Housing Self-Service](#) under Apps and Form.

Although these are difficult times, we are convinced that the skills and knowledge developed through GO are more essential than ever for success in the future. The ability to work effectively across cultures, to be flexible, resilient, adaptable and open to new ideas — all of these are critical to helping us address the issues that impact our entire planet.

Stay well,
Scott Manning, Molly Roe, Ariana Stuhl
GO Office