



**Brock**  
University

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Dear Colleagues,

I hope you have had a healthy and productive summer and are refreshed and energized to take on the challenge of operating the University for the 2009-2010 academic year.

As you are aware from media reports, the world is currently dealing with the novel A H1N1 influenza pandemic, which is predicted to peak this fall when classes are well underway. Fortunately the virus has remained fairly mild, but there is still the real possibility of a cluster of cases causing disruption here and in the community. The University, with the guidance of the Emergency Response Team and the staff from Student Health Services and Human Resources and Environment, Health & Safety, is working on influenza mitigation strategies that fall into two categories: Prevention and Preparation.

We have launched the Brock Pandemic Influenza website [www.brocku.ca/pandemicflu](http://www.brocku.ca/pandemicflu) which provides valuable information relevant to the pandemic, which I encourage you to review and think about in the context of home and work. It will be updated regularly. I also recommend proactive business continuity planning, discussion and strategizing within your unit to build resiliency and minimize the potential impact on University operations.

Brock's Pandemic Influenza Planning team is working with ITS on a "Got Flu?" channel which will be linked on all mybrocku.ca portal access pages to allow tracking of influenza incidence among members of the Brock community and to provide for some verification of absence capability in the face of elevated case volumes. It will be activated by September 10th. If we find ourselves in a full pandemic situation it will be very difficult for individuals to see physicians and we may have to use self-registration on such a website in lieu of medical certificates for students. More detailed information on this channel will be provided when it is activated.

HR&EHS and SHS have developed a "Flu and You" education module which will be posted on the website for departments to review or individuals can attend training sessions throughout September. There are three sessions tomorrow, Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, register for one or find other dates, times at [www.brocku.ca/hr/training/focus](http://www.brocku.ca/hr/training/focus).

We appreciate your assistance as we work together to minimize the impact of a possible pandemic and to ensure the success of our students and the University as a whole. In closing, I will reiterate the key actions we are requesting of you:

- Wash your hands thoroughly and frequently
- Practice proper cough etiquette
- Prepare for the possibility of elevated illness at home and at work
- Know the symptoms (fever, cough, aches, malaise)
- Monitor your own health and stay home if you are ill

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I truly hope that these precautions will help prevent the worst-case scenarios we are forced to plan for.

Steven Pillar  
Vice President, Finance and Administration