

August 9, 2020

To all students of Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University:

You may have already heard the announcement from Oita Prefecture confirming that multiple APU students have been infected by the novel coronavirus. Everyone in the local community as well as all of us at the university are very concerned. APU is taking this situation very seriously.

It is extremely important that every one of us take appropriate measures to prevent any further spread of this infection. I want to remind you all of the fundamental actions we must all take to stop the spread of the infection:

- Wear a mask when going out and when around other people
- Frequently wash your hands thoroughly and use hand sanitizer
- Avoid the "Three Cs" (closed spaces, crowded places, and close-contact settings)
- Carefully monitor the condition of your health to include taking your temperature every day

Even if you carefully follow all of the measures listed above, there are situations where the risk of infection will be extremely high no matter what you do. One of the riskiest things you can do right now is attend dining parties of any kind. At a party like this it is inevitable that people will remove their masks to eat and talk. We must all avoid situations like this—not only gatherings in restaurants, but also home parties.

Once again: I strongly encourage every one of you to protect yourself and those around you by taking all necessary precautions to prevent the spread of this infection, and to prevent spreading this infection to others.

Last but not least, I sincerely hope that all of the students infected with the coronavirus will recover as quickly as possible.

Haruaki Deguchi
President