

## Flu precautions at UW-Eau Claire

**The following e-mail message was sent Sept. 3, 2009, to all UW-Eau Claire students and employees.**

Dear UW-Eau Claire students and colleagues,

As we begin another new academic year, I would like to urge all members of our university to pay special attention to their physical well-being. Given the realities of the H1N1 flu virus, it is especially important to practice proper hygiene in order to prevent the spread of flu in our classrooms, offices and larger campus community.

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or an alcohol-based cleaner.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Do not share food, drink, or utensils.

I would also urge you to exercise personal responsibility and stay home if you become sick. Taking this precaution can help control an outbreak of flu, should one occur. In particular, I would ask our faculty and instructional staff for sensitivity to this concern in their attendance policies and that students be responsible and honest about any absences caused by illness.

Please take some time to educate yourself about flu symptoms by reading the information posted on the Student Health Service Web site, [http://www.uwec.edu/shs/H1N1\(swine\)Flu.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/shs/H1N1(swine)Flu.htm).

In the coming weeks, the university will be selling flu kits, at cost, to students and employees that include hand sanitizer, a surgical mask and digital thermometer. They will be available for purchase at front desks of all residence halls, Student Health Service and the Service Center in Davies Center.

UW-Eau Claire has in place a plan that would be implemented if an outbreak of swine flu were to occur on campus. Naturally, an important part of the plan is communicating information to you in a timely fashion.

Best wishes for a successful and healthy start to the new year!

Chancellor Brian Levin-Stankevich, Ph.D.