Dear Students, Faculty and Staff:

Many of us have been following the news as it relates to the Ebola outbreaks that have been happening in parts of Africa and most recently the one case reported in the United States. We wanted to provide you with some resources and let you know a bit about what we are doing at UW-Eau Claire.

While Ebola is very unlikely at UW-Eau Claire it is important to be aware of any changes in your health if you have recently traveled to one of the countries where the Ebola outbreaks are occurring (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria). If this applies to you:

1. Monitor your health for 21 days after you leave West Africa and watch for fever, headaches, and body aches.
2. If you become ill, call your primary health care provider immediately to discuss your symptoms, travel, and potential exposure before you go to the clinic or hospital. Students can also call Student Health Services at (715) 836-4311.
Avoid travel to affected areas

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued its highest level of travel warning against any nonessential travel to Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone including education-related travel to the affected areas, in order to facilitate control of the outbreak and prevent continued spread. A travel alert recommending enhanced precautions has been issued for travelers to Nigeria.

What is UW-Eau Claire doing?

The Center for International Education has been monitoring the situation in Africa and currently has no students from UW-Eau Claire studying in the affected countries.

Although the risk of exposure is unlikely, UW-Eau Claire and the Student Health Services are following CDC’s guidance for universities and are in the process of identifying and contacting students who have come from, or who have traveled to, regions most affected by the Ebola outbreak. No students have been assessed as having had risk exposure. If you have recently traveled to Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, or Nigeria and have not been contacted, please call the UW- Eau Claire Student Health Services or your medical provider.

The Student Health Services staff are accustomed to caring for students who have traveled internationally and uses the CDC-recommended protocols for screening, evaluation, isolation, and protective procedures. This screening process is applicable to any returning traveler.

To provide the most up-to-date information, we are staying closely connected to the Wisconsin Division of Public Health and leading public health resources.

From the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention @ CDC.gov:

- Ebola Overview
- Outbreak Updates
- Advice for Colleges, Universities, and Students about Ebola in West Africa

Links to information on Ebola from the U.S. State Department:

U. S. State Dept. Ebola Fact Sheet for Travelers:
http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/go/Ebola.html

CDC Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever:
http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/index.html?s_cid=cdc_homepage_feature_001

(Thank you to UW Green Bay for sharing their information with us)