


MEMORANDUM


Office of the Provost

Jean Morrison
Vice Provost for
Academic Affairs and
Graduate Programs

Professor of
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To: USC Faculty Colleagues 

From: Jean Morrison, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
and Graduate Programs

Gene Bickers, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs 

Date: 15 September 2009

Subject: Flu and Viral Infections, Impact on Students

Given the likelihood of a higher than normal incidence of the flu and other viral infections among our students and academic community this year, it is possible there will be an increase this fall in the number of students requesting assignment extensions and laboratory or exam make-ups. Please use your judgment and discretion in dealing with these requests and, when appropriate, provide the benefit of the doubt to your undergraduate and graduate students. The Student Health Center will not be writing routine medical excuses for students. Further, the recommendation for individuals with a mild/moderate case of the flu is often that they *not* see their health care provider, but rather that they self isolate.

In addition, if you supervise graduate students who are serving as Teaching Assistants, please advise them about the likely increased incidence of viral infections among their students. They should also work to accommodate students who may be ill and thus need extensions or make-up exams.

Please keep in mind that the Provost will make any decisions regarding the cancellation of classes, and any such decision will be communicated broadly to faculty, students and staff through email and other means.