

Dear Faculty Member:

This past week you have received a letter from Dr. Sample, and one from Dr. Armstrong and the Academic Senate President, Philippa Levine, addressing the impending threat of war. As with all members of our community, we are concerned about our students.

As you return to your classes, we encourage you to take some time in class to acknowledge the state of the world. You may want to provide time for discussion, and inform students that it is okay to have different perspectives and feelings. It is important that they be encouraged to listen to each other and respect diverse viewpoints. Students may also look to you for guidance and reassurance.

As faculty, you may be the first to recognize and identify how individuals are responding and coping. Behavior that is inconsistent with your past experience with a student may constitute a "cry for help". Your concern and empathy could be helpful in identifying a student in distress. Students needing additional support may contact the following offices:

Student Counseling Center	740-7711
Student Health Center	740-9355
Office of Residential and Greek Life	740-2080
Office of Religious Life	740-6110
Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs	740-2421

Additionally, USC is providing avenues to bring the university community together. For students who reside in campus housing, town hall meetings have been scheduled for Sunday, March 23rd and Monday, March 24th after spring break. Also, Susan Laemmle, dean of religious life, has reconvened the One USC Committee to develop programs that facilitate community dialogue. Programs being developed include conversational commons that will be scheduled in residential communities and in academic settings. As programs evolve, please consult the One USC website for information (<http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/oneusc>).

USC is committed to supporting students as we all try to cope during these uncertain times. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Jackson
Vice President for Student Affairs