

September 29, 2009

Dear Wabash Parent,

I am writing to report that two Wabash College students have been diagnosed with positive Influenza A. At this time, the Indiana State Department of Health suggests all positive Influenza A tests be treated as the H1N1 Influenza virus.

In accordance with the recommendations of the State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control, these students, both members of Sigma Chi, have been sent to their homes for more direct, parental care. The students will return to campus after they have been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. Bathrooms and public spaces in the fraternity house are in the process of being thoroughly cleaned at this time.

All members of the Wabash campus, including the students' advisors and professors, have been notified of the situation.

The first cases of H1N1 in the United States became known approximately six months ago. Since that time, Wabash's campus physicians, Dr. John Roberts and Dr. Scott Douglas, along with the College Nurse, Carol Lamb, and members of the Safety Committee have been planning for a possible occurrence of the H1N1 virus on our campus. We are confident that we have the necessary resources and procedures in place to provide comfort and care to students who might become ill.

Since the beginning of school, we have made available on our website current information on the H1N1 virus, including a strong emphasis on how students can prevent the spread of the disease. Please take a moment to review the information, which is available on the College's home page at www.wabash.edu. I encourage you to speak with your son about those precautions and to remind him that if he does become ill, it is important that he contact the Student Health Center immediately.

Please do not respond to this e-mail. My ability to respond to many parent replies is quite limited. If you would like to contact me — or a member of the Dean of Students' staff — please call (765) 361-6310 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. You may also contact Nurse Lamb in the Student Health Center at (765) 361-6265.

Thank you for your efforts to communicate well with your son and to help keep him healthy. Best wishes to you and your family as we all work to limit the impact of this health crisis.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Raters
Dean of Students