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Taylor Cancels Inaugural Business Semester in China in Response to Coronavirus

BY: James R. Garringer

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Taylor University officials have canceled what was to have been the inaugural semester of a business-related program in Xian, China.

According to Dr. Charles Brainer, Dean of International Programs, the move came in response to the coronavirus, which, as of Thursday, January 30, according to CNN, has sickened more than 8,100 people there and claimed the lives of 170. There have also been more than 100 cases of the illness outside the Chinese mainland, including several in the United States.

Brainer said the decision was made after the Centers for Disease Control and the U.S. State Department announced Level 3 travel restrictions to China, meaning only essential travel there should be undertaken. Officials at numerous colleges and universities throughout the United States have cancelled or postponed planned trips to China. Today the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus a global health emergency.

Taylor officials also say two students and a faculty member who have been in China this month are

being held off-campus for 14 days, the incubation period for the coronavirus. According to Brainer, although the business program as well as the three individuals were not in or near Wuhan, the epicenter of the outbreak, the move was precautionary.



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