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March 2, 2020

Hello 2020-21 Study Abroad Students,

As you may be aware, spring 2020 semester programs in China, South Korea, and Italy have been cancelled due to the [CDC's level 3 travel advisories](#) for those countries. Additionally, Bentley made the decision to cancel all spring break faculty-led international courses and GBEs to ensure that no students experience delays or difficulties in crossing borders and reentering the country.

We know many of you are understandably worried about the fate of your programs for next year, especially with the semester deposit deadline coming up. Rest assured, **if your program is cancelled due to concerns around Coronavirus, you will not lose your deposit**; it will simply be credited to your Bentley account. However, we've decided to extend our deposit deadline until **Friday, March 20**, to give you all a chance to speak with an advisor with any concerns before making your final decision.

As always, our office is available for any urgent questions or concerns you may have. However, we ask that you be patient as we work through the immediate needs of current study abroad students. **After spring break, we will be holding daily drop-in advising hours from March 16-20 at 1:00-4:00pm in AAC 161**, where you can discuss any and all concerns you may have for 2020-21 study abroad programs with an advisor. You may also schedule a one-on-one appointment with your program-specific advisor on [BentleyAbroad](#). Otherwise, we recommend that you continue your study abroad process as usual – **including attending all scheduled program meetings** – as there is no way to know what the state of the virus will look like months from now.

We also recommend you keep up-to-date on the spread of the virus through reliable resources like the [World Health Organization](#), the [Centers for Disease Control](#), the [U.S. Department of State](#), and [the Massachusetts Dept of Health](#). You can also check on bentley.edu/coronavirus for updates on Bentley-specific information regarding the virus.

We thank you in advance for your patience as we navigate this difficult situation, and we will continue to share whatever updates we have in as timely a fashion as possible.

Best,

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