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Dear Study Abroad Students and Families,

We hope this message finds you healthy and safe. As the 2020-21 academic year draws closer, we have continued to monitor the worldwide developments of COVID-19 and its impact on international education. As you know, fall 2020 study abroad and exchange programs have already been suspended. We anticipate that the realities of COVID-19 will continue to be present at home and abroad beyond the fall semester.

As a result, **Bentley University has made the difficult decision to suspend spring 2021 study abroad and exchange programs.** We understand this is an additional disappointment for those who had originally planned to study abroad in the fall 2020 semester and were hopeful to switch to spring 2021. Bentley and the Cronin Office of International Education do not take this decision lightly and took into consideration guidance from the U.S. State Department, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and internal and external risk management intelligence. As always, the safety of students is our top priority.

This pandemic has illustrated the interconnectedness of our world and that the need for engagement across borders is as strong as ever. We will continue to make global education a priority at Bentley and will advise and support you as we envision new possibilities for global learning in a COVID world.

We understand that you will have many questions about the options for future study abroad. You are welcome to [contact your study abroad advisor](#) with individual questions, concerns or to revisit your global education goals. We ask for your patience at this time as we may not have immediate answers to all of your questions. Please watch for our events coming this fall to learn more about future opportunities. All of us in International Education and across campus remain committed to supporting you. We will navigate through these uncertain times together.

Sincerely,

Natalie and the International Education Team

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