Dear ESF Community,

Governor Andrew Cuomo declared a state of emergency today, a step expected to help contain the spread of the coronavirus by allowing rapid deployment of resources across the state. At this time, please note the following:

- The College remains open.
- Classes, events and activities will be held as scheduled.
- Study abroad spring break trips remain cancelled.
- College-sponsored international travel to CDC-level 3 countries will not be authorized.
- The College is working collaboratively with many experts at many institutions, including Syracuse University, SUNY Upstate Medical, and the state and local Departments of Health to ensure the health and safety of our faculty, staff, and students.

At today's press briefing, the Governor explained:

"This state of emergency declaration allows, among other things:

- Expedited procurement of cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer and other essential resources
- Allowing qualified professionals other than doctors and nurses to conduct testing
- Expedited procurement of testing supplies and equipment
- Expedited personnel onboarding
- Expedited leasing of lab space
- Allowing EMS personnel to transport patients to quarantine locations other than just hospitals
- Providing clear basis for price gouging and enforcement investigation"

To read the full announcement from the Governor, please visit his website.

There are several steps that all of us can all take to reduce personal risk and to help keep those around us safe. I encourage you to consider the following:

- CDC recommends washing hands with soap and water whenever possible because handwashing reduces the amounts of all types of germs and chemicals on hands. But if soap and water are not available, using a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol can help you avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others.
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
Stay home when you are sick.
Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

For the latest information, please visit these sites:
- The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website
- The World Health Organization (WHO) website

Sincerely,
Dave Amberg
Interim President