

**Staff Council
Voice of Staff Response
2009-2010**

Submission Number: 2

Topic: H1N1 virus

Original Submission:

In the event that the H1N1 virus picks up in the fall, what does DePaul plan to do to mitigate the problem? Does DePaul have a pandemic preparedness plan, as other businesses do? Is there a system in place to allow DePaul staff to work from home? What types of resources will DePaul make available to educate its staff about H1N1?

Businesses in the downtown Chicago area have already begun implementing plans to cope with H1N1 in the fall-- working flex hours, working from home, what about DePaul?

Response to Submission:

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Response:

In the event that the H1N1 virus picks up in the fall, what does DePaul plan to do to mitigate the problem? The university's crisis management team has had several meetings since April to discuss the H1N1 virus, we are reviewing the CDC recommendations for colleges and universities to see what further actions we may be able to take to help mitigate the problem. We will also send out an email to everyone again around the second week of school to remind everyone of what steps to take to help prevent getting and spreading the H1N1 virus.

Does DePaul have a pandemic preparedness plan, as other businesses do? Yes but the crisis management team is in the process of updating our plan for the H1N1 virus and will be reviewing it with several key areas over the next three or four weeks so we are ready to implement it if the university has a widespread outbreak of the H1N1 this fall.

Is there a system in place to allow DePaul staff to work from home? There is no official work at home policy but we are discussing possible ways for people to work from home or from an alternate location if we experience a large scale outbreak of the H1N1.

What types of resources will DePaul make available to educate its staff about H1N1? As we did previously, we will send out emails and provide a link about information regarding the H1N1 virus before the start of school.

Businesses in the downtown Chicago area have already begun implementing plans to cope with H1N1 in the fall-- working flex hours, working from home, what about DePaul? The crisis management team is working on and discussing our plans for not only the H1N1 but other possible disasters. We will have further information early in the fall quarter, please know that the university has been discussing, reviewing and updating our plans to be prepared as possible for any disaster that the university may encounter.