



HEALTH

Swine flu concerns nix plans abroad

Mexico program is canceled; European students leave early

BY ALEXANDRA GARRY
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The Office of Study Abroad canceled a language study program in Mexico Thursday because of public health concerns surrounding the H1N1 influenza virus, also known as the swine flu. In the meantime, several international students made plans to return to their home institutions early.

The summer study abroad program, in Puebla, Mexico, near Mexico City, was scheduled to begin May 15 and had sixteen students enrolled.

"The Office of Study Abroad always places the well-being of our students as our highest priority," said Sue Lorenz, director of the Office of Study Abroad, in a media release.

Jill Jess, associate director for news and media relations of University Relations, said the students would be compensated for their airfare cancellation costs and that the office would attempt to find suitable alternate study abroad plans for the students.

University officials initially said the flu outbreak was unlikely to affect study abroad plans, but after the World Health Organization raised the international pandemic alert Wednesday, Provost Richard Lariviere and staff from several other offices on campus began daily situation update meetings Thursday.

Several international students received e-mails from their home universities, and made last-minute plans to return to their countries. The e-mails said that the universities would allow them to leave if they felt uncomfortable about the potential health threat of swine flu, which has stricken two Kansas residents.

Aurore Tabarand, Vichy, France, graduate student, said she got an e-mail from her home university, Groupe ESC Clermont, Wednesday, saying officials there would support students who decided to leave. She said ESC Clermont officials said worries about final projects and exams should not prevent students from leaving a situation they felt uncomfortable with. Other international institutions have informed their students the same, Tabarand said.

Tabarand said she decided to leave after speaking with her parents and that, although she felt the situation was under control, she worried what may happen in the next few weeks.

"I was fearing not being able to go home if something did happen," she said.

Tabarand is planning to take a flight back to France on Saturday. She had to pay a 150 Euro (\$199) charge for taking her flight early. She said she knew of two other students from her university who had made the decision to leave Kansas early.

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THE OL' SWITCHEROO



Chance Dikken/KANSAN

Chancellor For a Day winner Colin Riesman, Overland Park senior, and Chancellor Robert Hemenway converse about their experiences in each other's shoes over lunch in Impromptu Café, in the Kansas Union. Riesman said it "was interesting to go through the chancellor's day, seeing where all the money gets allocated."

Good morning, Chancellor Colin

Chancellor for a Day raffle winner Colin Riesman switched his free morning for Robert Hemenway's busy one

BY RACHEL BURCHFIELD
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Yesterday morning was not a typical Thursday morning for Colin Riesman.

His usual routine of sleeping in, eating and watching TV was instead jam-packed with meetings ranging in topics from construction on campus to the University's budget.

When Riesman, Overland Park senior, grabbed lunch yesterday, it was at the Impromptu Café with the man whose life he had emulated for three hours — Chancellor Robert Hemenway.

Again — not a typical Thursday

morning.

While Riesman was chancellor for a day as part of a program by the same name, Hemenway himself was left without much to do. Because Riesman didn't have Thursday morning classes, Hemenway wasn't able to take notes for Riesman, who won the Chancellor for a Day raffle. Riesman's experience as the head honcho on campus ended after he and Hemenway ate lunch together, which was a little too soon, Riesman said, as he had a business economics test in his 2:30 class that he said he wished Hemenway could have taken for him.

"My teacher probably would give him an A," Riesman said.

Riesman submitted six tickets into the Chancellor for a Day raffle, organized by Michael Gillaspie, Ashland senior and student body vice president. Gillaspie announced Riesman's name as the raffle's winner Monday, and notified him by sending him a Facebook message and an e-mail. Riesman said he was very excited to have won and was glad the money he paid for the raffle tickets supported Jubilee Café, a breakfast kitchen for the low-income and homeless people of Lawrence.

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CHANCELLOR COLIN RIESMAN'S MORNING

8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.: Review the construction and renovation project with University architect Warren Corman in an on-site observation.

10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.: Meet in the chancellor's office with University business and financial planning officer Theresa Gordzica for a budget update.

10:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.: Go over calendar and upcoming commitments with secretary Gay Lynn Clock.

11 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.: Be briefed on various issues by Mary Burg, executive assistant to the chancellor.

11:45 a.m.: Lunch with Robert Hemenway in the Kansas Union's Impromptu Café.

Schedule courtesy of Gay Lynn Clock, secretary to Chancellor Hemenway

RELAY FOR LIFE

Patients show artwork they created during battles with cancer

BY LAUREN HENDRICK
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For every luminary candle placed around the track there is a story behind the flame.

The annual KU Relay for Life begins at 6 p.m. today in Memorial Stadium. Thirty student groups will walk around the stadium until 6 a.m. Saturday in memory of loved ones lost to cancer and in honor of those still battling the disease.

The Spencer Museum of Art Student Advisory Board will participate in its first relay tonight in hopes of not only raising money toward a cure, but also sharing the healing power of art with the community.

Dawn Tallchief, assistant director of military graduate education,

WHAT: The American Cancer Society Relay for Life
WHEN: May 1 - May 2
TIME: 6 p.m. - 6 a.m.
WHERE: Memorial Stadium
COST: Free, open to the public

said making art helped her come to terms with breast cancer.

"It helped me educate and inform others," Tallchief said. "It helped me show women it's not as scary as it looks."

Tallchief's art will be showcased in the student advisory board's art display at its campsite at the relay.

"We really believe in the idea of healing through the arts by letting

go of pain and frustration," Sarah Bluvas, Atlanta junior, said.

Bluvas, who is a captain on the advisory board's relay team, said art was a way for cancer patients to express themselves and grow.

Tallchief, who was diagnosed with breast cancer in May 2007, said making art was a therapeutic outlet during a dim period in her life.

She said she hoped her art could show the story of her personal battle with breast cancer and convey her recovery. She said she was now healthy and needed a mammogram only once a year.

Bluvas said raising money for the Relay for Life was important to her because the reality of cancer was close to home.

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Dawn Tallchief, assistant director for the Office of Professional Military Graduate Education, displays her untitled work which functioned as a therapeutic release from her cancer treatment. The work will be amongst other art created by cancer patients that will be shown at the Spencer Museum of Art for the weekend's Relay For Life.

Libby Napoli/KANSAN