Statement on Summer Study Abroad and COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Decisions

We are eager to restore summer study abroad programming in 2021. We are beginning the planning process and looking forward to hosting students on our summer programs in Austria, France, Italy and Japan. Nonetheless, we must remain vigilant in assessing the global impact of COVID-19 to the health and safety of our participants. We realize that there are many questions, even though it is too early to have many specific answers. With months to go before our first program departs in May 2021, international travel is still very much restricted, but there are possibilities for change in any direction. Even though the situation is fluid, our priority will always be the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff. That is our promise to you. Therefore, we will begin to plan and promote our programs by staying vigilant and informed, with the following in mind:

1. We will follow and adhere to all guidance from the U.S. State Department, Centers for Disease Control, the World Health Organization, local host governments, and the University of Louisiana System.
2. It must be possible for U.S. citizens to travel abroad and return safely.
3. We must be confident that the pandemic is being managed safely and responsibly in the host country.
4. We will continue to develop our administrative and academic protocols for each program over the course of the year as the situation evolves.
5. We will keep all participants informed as we make decisions about these protocols, program design and delivery.
6. We will let students know immediately if it becomes clear that we must cancel the program for reasons beyond our control.
7. All cancellation policies are in effect, including penalties if students cancel their program participation.
8. Finally, if we cancel the program for any reason, as in summer 2020, all students will be completely refunded any fees paid to UNO.