



February 7, 2020

Dear Members,

As your Leadership Team, in consultation with the Executive Board, we have made the decision to cancel the East Asia & Pacific Regional Institute (May 2-3) due to uncertainty with school closings, government regulations, and travel restrictions. The Kunming College Fair and Community Outreach Event planned for April 27-29 is also canceled. Members who have registered for these events will be contacted directly and issued a full refund of any fees paid to International ACAC. The Executive Board will be discussing when to reschedule both of these events as regional professional development for our members remains a priority.

It is important to move ahead with this decision at this time because all indications are that the health risk will not dissipate in the region in the near future. Because of this, we felt as an organization it was important to do all that we can to alleviate stress or concern from our members. The prospect of planning and hosting a large-scale, high-attendance event in the region would be inconsiderate to all those involved – whether it is the host institutions and precautions they would require advance planning, or the attendees and the clearance from their institutions to attend. For these reasons, International ACAC believes that canceling the events at this time is the best course of action.

We are monitoring the Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak and its effects that are causing ripples among our membership community. We are aware that the activities of our members have been altered or suspended, creating challenges across universities, schools, and community life. We see the helpful dialogue in our Facebook group, and we know our community will continue to connect in the best interests of one another and our students. This is where our members come together to offer support in a time of crisis. We appreciate our member colleges and universities supporting counselors and students [impacted](#).

**We will hold an online Member Town Hall on Tuesday, February 18;** one outcome will be to identify ways we can offer virtual support the counselors affected by school closings and the broader implications. Look for a message next week to register - and to share your suggestions.

Sincerely,

Becky Konowicz, President  
Kathleen Schultz, President-Elect  
Aaron Andersen, Past-President  
Theresa Schweser, Executive Director