Dear international students,

Following the note from President Fuchs that was sent earlier today, I write to assure you that the university administration fully understands that for many of you Gainesville is your home at the moment. For many of you, going elsewhere may not be possible or desirable for many reasons, and you are certainly welcome to stay here. You are an important part of our community and we will do our best to support you in any way possible.

I have just two important requests:

If you do stay in Gainesville, please be sure to follow the guidelines and suggestions you have received about practicing social distancing and minimizing your contact with others as much as possible. If you work on campus, please consult with your supervisor about working remotely. Remember that the rules for work remain the same, including the 20 hour per week limit for international students.

If you decide to leave Gainesville, either to travel back to your home country or to a different location within the U.S., please complete the Travel Report found at: https://isss.internationalcenter.ufl.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=OneStep.Apply&Program_ID=10061. This will facilitate communication from our office to students who have traveled out of Gainesville due to COVID-19 concerns.

If you have further questions or need to speak to your advisor for any reason, we would ask that you contact him or her by email at this point.

Please stay safe and healthy, and do not hesitate to reach out by phone or email if we at the International Center can offer help or guidance. If you have an immigration emergency please call 352-538-5558.

Yours,

Leonardo A. Villalón
Dean, University of Florida International Center