



7 March 2020

Dear Members of the Higher Education Community

Yesterday, we were informed of one medically confirmed case of COVID-19 (contagious disease caused by coronavirus) at the School of Architecture and another possible case at the School of Agricultural, Food and Biosystems Engineering that is still under investigation.

Firstly, I, and the other members of the executive team, would like to wish the above a rapid recovery. Please be informed that the Rector's Office is in constant communication with the health authorities. We are awaiting specific instructions as to the measures to be taken now that these two cases have been discovered bearing in mind that we cannot rule out further positive cases of this disease appearing in the UPM's 40,000-strong community.

In the certainty that you are already adopting the generally applicable measures of protection to prevent contagion of this disease, I call upon students, scholars and administrative and services staff to keep calm and would again like to advise you all to follow the recommendations given by both the Ministry of Health and Madrid Regional Government's Department of Health to prevent infection with COVID-19.

<https://www.mscbs.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/ccayes/alertasActual/nCov-China/home.htm>
<https://www.comunidad.madrid/servicios/salud/2019-nuevo-coronavirus>

Should you have symptoms of the disease —**fever, fatigue, dry cough and difficulty breathing**—, call the emergency number **112**, the health emergency number **061** or **900 102 112** (expressly set up to deal with COVID-19-related queries in the Autonomous Community of Madrid) before going to hospital.

In the event of any member of the UPM being confirmed to have contracted COVID-19, please notify the Office of the respective School Director, Dean, Research Institute or Centre Director or Vice Rector, who will then report to the health authorities, and, if necessary, establish control and contention mechanisms to prevent the possible propagation of the disease to other members of the higher education community.

Until we receive specific instructions from the health authorities, the university will continue to operate as normal.

You will be promptly informed of any COVID-19 updates related to our academic or professional activity. Additionally, we are in the process of creating a page on the UPM website (www.upm.es) with information related to COVID-19. Important updates on the evolution of this disease, and especially any information that is related to the university community, will be posted here.

Regards

Guillermo Cisneros
Rector
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid