



PUBLIC RELATIONS

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## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

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May 4, 2009

### *SUNO takes precautions with suspected case of H1N1*

NEW ORLEANS, LA - Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) has been notified by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) that a university employee is one of the 21 statewide suspected cases of the H1N1 virus. The university has been informed by DHH that the suspected case **has not been confirmed**, but recommends precautions for students and employees of SUNO. DHH does not recommend that SUNO suspend operations while awaiting confirmation of the suspected case.

SUNO is in close contact with DHH in order to monitor the developments of the case, and recommends that students and employees have an awareness of signs and symptoms of influenza, as outlined by the Center for Disease Control. Those signs and symptoms include:

- a fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater,
- persistent coughing, or
- a sore throat.

According to DHH, any students or employees who display the signs and symptoms should immediately get an evaluation from their respective personal physicians. DHH also recommends that they hold off reporting to work or class while awaiting results of their evaluations. Employees and students who DO NOT display the symptoms should report to campus according to the agency.

DHH highly recommends that employees and students practice the following health precautions:

- Wash hands consistently.
- Cover the mouth when coughing.
- Avoid contact with ill people.

SUNO adds to the recommendations that employees and students should consider keeping hand sanitizer with them while on campus.

More information about H1N1 is available on the DHH web site at <http://www.flula.com>. There is also more information available at the regional Office of Public Health at (504) 599-1011.

**END**