Dear Research Student,

We hope you are all keeping well and as stated last week, please be assured that we will try to ensure that this unprecedented circumstance does not impact your studies any further.

We would like to take this opportunity to provide more details on the processes in place during the campus closure:

1. You should aim to continue with your research in so far as that is possible. Please contact your supervisors to agree online mechanisms for supervision.

2. Research students continue to receive their stipend, if in receipt of one, and should continue to work off campus in Ireland.

3. On return to normal activity, there will be a no-cost extension for all research students and we will adjust all thesis submission dates, to take account of the campus closure.

4. Non-essential travel has been suspended by the university and we all need to be aware that this situation could extend into the Summer months.

5. For some, a leave of absence may be appropriate while others may be in a position to continue with their research. The university will support everyone in the decisions that they make.

We are very conscious that the current COVID-19 situation is distressing for all, but more so, for our international students who are away from home and family. In relation to personal travel, if international students decide to return to their home country, they should check in advance of purchasing tickets, that all borders are open and that they will be able to reach their final destination.

If international students wish to return home while continuing their studies, they should contact their supervisor straight away to agree appropriate supervision arrangements and notify the Graduate Research School using PGR5B to confirm the change in residency. If a leave of absence is sought, again please also complete PGR5B, notifying the Graduate Research School so that their registration and stipend payments can be paused. In either case, students inform the office on their return so that their registration status can be updated.

For all TU Dublin research students in Ireland please follow www.hse.ie for accurate information about what to do.

Please stay well and safe

Mary McNamara
Head of the Graduate Research School