October 10, 2014

Dear Marymount Community:

In light of the most recent developments regarding Ebola virus disease (EVD) the Marymount University Student Health Center is closely monitoring the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) information on the Ebola virus outbreak. EVD is transmitted through direct contact with the blood or bodily fluids of an infected symptomatic person or through exposure to objects such as needles and clothing that have been contaminated with infected secretions. Only individuals who are in direct contact with an infected patient and the patient's bodily fluids are at a high risk for acquiring the illness.

To date no cases of EVD have been identified in Virginia. Representatives from the Student Health Center, Campus Safety & Emergency Management, and the Division of Student Affairs have met to discuss the outbreak and at present, no immediate threat to our campus has been identified. We advise that anyone experiencing flu-like symptoms, to include fever, nausea, and diarrhea after returning from travel or direct contact with someone who has traveled in the West Africa region (specifically Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Guinea) should proceed to their nearest emergency room for evaluation.

For more information on the Ebola virus disease, visit the WHO website or refer to the CDC's Ebola Fact Sheet.

Marymount students and employees are encouraged to continue to maintain good health by:

- Practicing good hygiene
- Avoiding sharing of ANY personal items such as food, utensils, glasses, toothbrushes, smoking materials, lip balm, etc.
- Washing hands with soap and water and using alcohol-based sanitizer often.

Students who plan to travel to the West African region in the coming months are asked to inform the Student Health Center.

As always, please feel free to contact the Student Health Center with any questions or concerns. You may visit the SHC located in Berg #1014 or call (703)284-1610. And, remember, if you have a medical emergency after SHC hours, call 911.

Sincerely,

Dave Wilmes, Ph.D.
Interim Director, Student Health Center