Dear faculty and staff,

It was great to connect with you yesterday in our ZooHive town hall and learn about how life has been unfolding under the Great Banyan Tree of Boston! I enjoyed our conversations about recipes, pets and karaoke! It is like we have rediscovered each other in new light and form a stronger community! If you could not attend the ZooHive, rest assured, a recording will be sent out soon! Flexibility is a sign of a resilient system, noted the famed systems theorist Gregory Bateson. Flexibility will help us work successfully through these challenging circumstances as the BAC’s family of families. No matter where you’ve been working from, I know that you will always give it your best.

We have taken up rapid maneuvering of our organization to accomplish two goals: First, we are moving from in-person to virtual work environments starting this week.
Second, our students are currently on spring break, but will soon be continuing their education online. We are hard at work to provide training and support for our faculty to provide the same level of educational excellence we offer both onsite and online. Our students are counting on us, and I know I can count on you to make us all proud.

Thanks to the rigorous work done by our E-Hive Taskforce members* (the Emergency Management Taskforce), we have anticipated these scenarios and developed options and plans to respond in a timely manner. In the last few weeks we came together with calm and professionalism, identified the issues and potential scenarios, and developed well-considered options that we have been systematically exercising. I have no doubt we will come out stronger from this experience. I would like to thank all of you for your creative and hard work in making the transition online.

The health, well-being, and safety of all members of the BAC community are of the utmost importance. It is times such as these that we need to remain flexible, patient, and mindful of our self and our colleagues.

If you have a fever or flu-like symptoms, you should call your health care provider before going to a health care facility. It’s important to know that testing and screening for Coronavirus is covered at no cost to you so do not let that be a deterrent.

Additional resources include:

You can call the Member Services phone number on your ID card for help with questions about access to health care services. Or call our 24-hour Nurse line at 866.201.7919 with clinical questions.

Also, you can access telehealth services if offered through your provider or through Teladoc, teladoc.com/tuftshealthplan. Telehealth enables you to make inquiries regarding symptoms or treatment for the Coronavirus in order to reduce your need to go to medical offices where the risk of exposure to the disease may be higher. These telehealth services related to the Coronavirus are available at no cost to you until further notice.

For emotional or financial health our EAP is available to employees 24/7. Our BAC community can call 508-650-6875 or log in online:

1. Go to Website: www.Mylifeexpert.com  (BAC new EAP website. No longer allonehealthheap.com)
2. To log in (create a log in) and enter our company code: baceap

If you have questions, please direct them to emergencymanagement@the-bac.edu or visit our COVID-19 UPDATE page. I also recommend following Twitter @TheBACBoston where you can find up-to-date and relevant information.

Stay safe and stay well,

Mahesh Daas

*List of members-- Joe Andrews, Rebecca Chabot-Wieferich, Mahesh Daas, Susan Dunton, Nancy Finn, Richard Griswold, Scott Harrison, Deirdre Higgins, Jason O'Brien, James Ryan, Shannon Thorin, Patti Vaughn, Mark Virello, Ellen Yee, Eliza Wilson. Many other faculty and staff participated in the discussions and preparations. Thank you!