



DEPARTMENT OF
**EARTH AND ATMOSPHERIC
SCIENCES**

March 30, 2020

Dear Students, Associate Instructors, and Faculty,

Your health and safety are the most important aspects of the courses we teach at the Judson Mead Geologic Field Station (IUGFS). While we cannot prevent all potential risks to your health and safety when you are working in the field, we do everything possible to minimize them. We're sure you have all been watching the very dynamic and sad changes in the COVID-19 situation. Unfortunately, all of the changes are working against us teaching X429, X428 and X498 face-to-face in the field this summer. Today Indiana University officially told us we cannot hold face-to-face courses at IUGFS in 2020.

All of the X429, X428 and X498 faculty are dedicated to your education and we will be teaching virtual versions of X428 and X498 this summer. Our goal is to provide the best possible educational experience for you given this year's unfortunate situation caused by the Novel Coronavirus. Since you were already accepted for one of our courses, you have a couple of options:

1. If you want to take the 2020 virtual course(s) this summer, just let us know which course(s) you want to take, the 5-credit X428 and/or a 1-credit X498 concentration. More details about the virtual curriculum will be sent out in the next few weeks, but our goal is to include the most important lessons you would learn in the field. The timing will be the same, June 28 – August 8. Course costs will be reduced to tuition only. If you had been previously notified about a scholarship, the scholarship amount will be scaled to the tuition only costs.
2. For students who would prefer to take one of our face-to-face courses in 2021, you will not need to reapply, simply tell us you want to come in 2021 and you will be automatically accepted. Course costs and scholarship amounts may change slightly for 2021, but we will try to keep those changes to a minimum. We will send you a cost and scholarship update in August or early September.

Each of you will receive an individual communication about course costs and your scholarship, if you had previously been notified about one. Feel free to e-mail iugfs@iu.edu with your preference or questions.

We sincerely regret that we will not be able to work with you face-to-face in the field this summer.

Stay safe and healthy!

Jim Handschy
Executive Director, IUGFS

Bruce Douglas
Academic Director, IUGFS