



March 12th, 2020

Dear JUSTEC 2020 presenters and JUSTEC friends,

It is sad to see the rapid changes and effects due to COVID-19 across the world.

The JUSTEC Governing Board met today, and we have reluctantly decided to cancel JUSTEC 2020 and to reschedule the conference for next May 2021.

We have invited Gonzaga University, the 2020 host, to host the conference in 2021. The Governing Board determined, based on many sources, that it is not prudent to invite people to travel internationally or to gather at conferences during this very uncertain time.

Yesterday, March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic; the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) elevated their Travel Warning to "Level 3: Avoid Nonessential Travel" for Europe and "Level 2: Practice Enhanced Precautions" for the whole world. In addition, the White House issued a 30-day travel restriction for Europe, barring people who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents from traveling to the United States from Europe. Schools have been closed in Japan for several weeks. In many parts of the United States, schools and universities are closing, and their re-opening dates are not clear.

For accepted JUSTEC 2020 presenters, we have decided to keep your proposal as an accepted presentation for JUSTEC 2021. You will automatically have a place in the program, and you will not need to resubmit a proposal. We will reach out, at a later date, to confirm your desire to present. You are welcome to record your presentation in your curriculum vitae as an accepted or upcoming presentation.

For those who may have completed registration and payment for JUSTEC 2020, we will refund this payment in the next weeks. The refund will come through Gonzaga University. The Governing Board will be meeting periodically to assess the COVID 19 situation, with hopes that we will be able to gather at Gonzaga in 2021. We especially appreciate the understanding of our Gonzaga colleagues, and we want to thank them for their hard work in preparing for JUSTEC.

Thank you all very much, and we hope that we will see a better situation in a few months.

Best wishes,

JUSTEC 2020 Planning Committee and JUSTEC Governing Board