Dear Colleagues,

I attended a meeting of local leaders yesterday concerning our community’s participation in earthquake relief efforts to help people in Sendai, Japan. As you may know, Sendai is one of Riverside’s sister cities—a relationship that, in its earliest form, dates back to 1951. It also is one of the cities in which RCCD established a Study Abroad semester program.

The devastation in the region is difficult to intellectually and emotionally absorb, and response efforts are very fluid at the moment. Of immediate concern, however, is the need for cash donations. If you wish to help relief efforts in Sendai, the City of Riverside has established a special fund. Make your check payable to the City of Riverside and in the memo field write IRC/Sendai. Checks should be mailed to 3900 Main Street—Mayor’s Office, Riverside CA 92522; all donations to the Sendai Relief Fund are tax deductible.

I am confident that our community of colleges will respond with generosity to meet the critical needs of people living in Sendai and other parts of Japan affected by this major disaster. Thank you for your goodwill.

Sincerely,

Greg W. Gray
Chancellor
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P.S.
If you have family or friends living in or visiting Japan at the moment, you may find the following links of value:

If you wish to locate family or friends, visit: https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php

Family in Japan requiring assistance should contact the Department of State at: JapanEmergencyUSC@state.gov or the American Embassy at 1-10-5 Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8420 JAPAN, Phone 03-3224-5000, Fax: 03-3505-1862. Note: telecommunications are impacted in Japan and may not be fully functioning.

For updated information on travel and security in Japan, call the Department of State toll free at 1-888-407-4747.