January 3, 2018

Dear Brown Community Members,

Significant winter conditions are expected to affect our area starting early tomorrow morning. A winter storm warning is in effect from 1 a.m. Thursday, January 4, to 1 a.m. Friday, January 5. While the storm track could vary, the highest intensity snow accumulations and high winds are anticipated during the day tomorrow (Thursday, January 4). Visibility and travel conditions will be challenging at best and most likely dangerous throughout the day tomorrow.

Accordingly, Brown University administrative and academic offices and operations will be closed on Thursday, January 4, 2018, and all Wintersession classes are cancelled.

- All members of the community are strongly advised to avoid all non-essential travel and to remain indoors during the height of the storm. Heavy snowfall, high winds, ice and snow on streets, sidewalks and paths, and a lack of visibility will pose serious risks - please stay safe and stay indoors.
- The City of Providence has not yet announced a parking ban but is likely to do so given the forecast. Residents with overnight parking passes are advised that they cannot park on the street during the duration of a city parking ban.
- Brown Dining Services will centralize their operations on Thursday at the Sharpe Refectory. The Refectory will be open from 7 a.m. through 7:30 p.m. Other dining locations will most likely be closed on Thursday but check the website for more information.
- Wintersession faculty will work to make alternative arrangements to make up the missed time due to those classes being cancelled tomorrow.
- For information about other University services please refer to department websites.
- Given the winds and snow, falling or downed branches and power lines are a particular concern. Do not approach or touch a downed power line under any circumstances but report it immediately to Public Safety at 401-863-4111.
- Grounds and custodial staff will be clearing pedestrian paths, stairs, and parking areas as soon as conditions allow. Depending on the total amount of accumulation, snow removal may take some time. Members of the community are encouraged to remain patient and exercise caution on paths which will be covered with snow and ice.
- Brown Public Safety and Emergency Medical Services are on patrol and available 24 hours a day. Report any emergencies at 401-863-4111. Reports of power outages or facilities concerns can be made to Service Response at 401-863-7800.

We will continue to update the community with additional information as necessary. If you have not already done so, make certain your emergency contact information (personal cell phone and home or off-campus housing phone numbers)
is up to date so that we can contact you as quickly as possible in the event of an emergency. Instructions on how to do so for students, faculty and staff can be found here.

Sincerely,

Russell C. Carey
Executive Vice President, Planning and Policy

Where to look for more information:

When a decision is made to close or delay opening of University administrative and/or academic operations, it shall be communicated to the University community via the following methods:

1. The Emergency Information Line recorded message at 401-863-3111;
2. Providence-area radio and television stations and websites;

The responsibility to cease operations of the Brown University Shuttle (B.U.S.) rests with the B.U.S. operator, First Transit, and will be made and communicated separately from any decision to close or delay opening of the University. B.U.S., due to the type of vehicles and service, may shut down in inclement weather even when the University is operating normally. Users of the service should monitor communications (generally made via email to the Brown community and on the B.U.S. website) regarding service status carefully and plan travel accordingly during periods of snow, ice, freezing rain or other inclement weather conditions.