Hi PharmD Students!

It has been a heck of a week, hasn't it? Things changing on an hourly basis for me, and I know the same is true for you. I want to share updates with you as fast as I have good information. Deans Dalton, Walker, Bostwick, Nelson, Ellingrod, and I would rather over-communicate with you than have you wondering where things stand. Even if you miss an email, we have set up a website that has the UM PharmD program latest news. https://pharmacy.umich.edu/covid-updates/pharmd_students

I have lots to share after President Schlissel’s message today, so let’s get to it. Read all of this because today was an information-rich day!

First of all, we are all here at the College and we want to support you. If you want to talk, have things clarified, have a good idea that we could use – we would love to hear from you and don’t hesitate to reach out.

Remote Learning: We are going to be teaching all content remotely. This will be a lot different in terms of how you study. We will still have study groups (see below), but it will take discipline on your part to keep up with school work even though you are in your pajamas! I have attached to this email some good remote learning tips to this email.

Exams: We will also be giving all exams – even the Final Exams – remotely. I bet that you are as concerned as I am about tech glitches occurring during exams. ExamSoft/Examplify Support: Attached is a document that provides troubleshooting information when taking remote exams, including contact information in the event you need help. You should print/take a picture of this document or write down the numbers so you can access them during an exam when the LockDown feature is activated. Do it now before a problem occurs!
President Schlissel announced today that he wants students to disperse and get out of Ann Arbor if they can. We have moved our classes online, but we understand that many of you are staying in Ann Arbor anyway because of your weekly IPPE obligation or your Shadow requirements. We understand the anxiety and fears that you may be experiencing because of the coronavirus. The COP has decided to relax its IPPE attendance requirement and LLL/Shadow requirements to enable those who would like to go home now, without completing them this semester, may do so. **This is a change from our earlier policy, but this is the right thing to do based on the pandemic.** Many of you live locally, or need/want to stay in the Ann Arbor area and may want to complete your IPPE hours/Shadow/LLL requirements now. You certainly may. Remember, as has been articulated in previous communications, the COP cannot waive the requirement for you to complete 300 IPPE hours. All hours missed from IPPE must be made up in order to meet graduation/curricular requirements and Michigan Board of Pharmacy intern requirements for licensure. At a later date, the Office of Experiential Education (OEE) will work with students choosing to suspend their IPPEs to develop plans to make up all missed hours. **OEE and your preceptor** need to know if you have decided to stop your IPPEs. OEE will develop a process for you to report your IPPE plans for completion either way. P3s must complete all IPPE hours before starting their APPEs by current accreditation rules. LLL/Shadowing will be made up at a later date, hopefully before we get very far along in next Fall semester.

**P1 Students**

**P1 Class Meeting 3/17/20 is cancelled.** Information will be shared from the class reps via email.

**P2 Students:**

The **IPE event** scheduled for mid-April (4/14 or 4/16) with 3rd-year med students has been cancelled.

**All Students**

**Study Groups**

Effective Monday, 3/16/20, all study groups should transition to an online format (e.g. BlueJeans). Contact Dean Bostwick with any questions or concerns. Rooms will no longer be available for group meetings at the College.
Student Organization and Events Guidance

For any planned meetings and events, these must be transitioned to an online format (e.g. BlueJeans). If a virtual meeting is not feasible, any event hosted at the College must be canceled. Communicate plans with your advisor & Dean Bostwick.

For social student org activities and events, any non-essential activities should be cancelled.

What can students do to help?

You might be looking for an opportunity to help others with COVID infection. There is certainly some needs if you have the time and inclination to serve.

1. Michigan Medicine Department of Pharmacy is expecting significant staffing challenges and would appreciate assistance from any students who are willing to help. If you currently intern at the health system, you have likely already received some communication about this need and have been asked to help. For those not currently employed by the hospital, the department may hire you as temporary interns. Alternatively, you may use this opportunity to earn health system or direct patient care IPPE hours, depending on what the department assigns you to do. Please note, you cannot be paid and earn IPPE hours; it is one or the other.

2. HOPE Clinic is planning to remain open and is willing to take students who still need to complete their service hours. Contact Michael Maranets <maranets@med.umich.edu>

3. There is an URGENT blood shortage. If you can spare the RBCs, the Red Cross would love a donation!

4. Deans Sweet and Mueller could use some occasional feedback on how the online courses are going. Good or bad, we would like to hear how its working for you.

Finally, take care of yourselves. Stay out of crowds, wash your hands and be kind to each other. This is a stressful time for everyone and if you are watching the news non-stop, your stress level goes higher!

There are stress reducers that you can do to keep your health. You can go for a walk outside, meditate, call your family or friends. Eat and sleep like you know you should.
Resources are available here and at the central University through CAPS: https://caps.umich.edu/

We have a good plan for the school-stuff and we are ready to help with the non-school stuff, so let’s take on this semester that we will talking about at reunions for the rest of our lives!

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