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October 20, 2020

Dear Faculty & Staff,

## Happy Pharmacists Week!

- ❖ There are all kinds of lessons being learned within this pandemic, but one of them is the value of pharmacists! We were on the front line when the public first learned of the problem. We are educating and treating patients in the community and hospital settings. Pharmacists will be an essential part of the vaccination process that will end this pandemic. It is a difficult time to be a pharmacy student or a pharmacist (or a pharmacy faculty member!), but it is also a time to feel proud to be an essential part of the solution!
- ❖ **The Wall Street Journal:** Tk Nguyen, our Central Student Government representative shared that central student government has partnered with the Wall Street Journal to provide students, faculty, and staff at the University of Michigan with free access to the WSJ's full site. I was unaware of this, but thought I would share this information with faculty, staff, and other students who may not be aware of this but would like to take advantage of it. Thanks for sharing TK! <https://www.csg.umich.edu/wsj?fbclid=IwAR3-b20gzLxexTp39YLL4x0H8u1oH7c4DFvWzvz8ZJaucgv1qlyRurHpbuc>
- ❖ With the **election** coming up, check out campus events and engagement opportunities at: <https://speakactvote.umich.edu/>.

**FACULTY**

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## ❖ **Instructor Resources for the 2020 Election**

**Preparing to Teach About the 2020 Election (and After)** is the first of a 3-part series by CRLT and the Ginsberg Center outlining strategies and resources that instructors can use to plan, frame, and facilitate conversations about the 2020 election. View [HERE](#).

**Getting Ready for the Election** is 1 of 3 sessions provided by the Ginsberg Center to help faculty, academic program staff, and GSIs prepare for the lead up to and aftermath of the election. Look at your calendar. **If you are teaching on the week following the election, you should prepare yourself with this information from this series.** The 1st session is designed to be a one-stop shop for election preparation basics. Resources will be shared to help your students get out to vote and discuss strategies for helping your students reflect on the impact of the election. Session 2 is about Managing Election Conversation, and Session 3 is Debriefing the Election--What Now? Information is [HERE](#).

**Leading the Classroom in Tumultuous Times: A Video Resource for Instructors** is available [HERE](#) to help U-M instructors teach in the midst of the upcoming election, ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the labor movements on campus, and the continued activism and protests against racism and police violence. A [recent conversation between Dr. Angela Dillard, Richard A Meisler Collegiate Professor of Afroamerican and African Studies, and U-M Associate General Counsel Jack Bernard](#) offers an excellent resource for instructors on how to navigate their approach to these issues.

## **HR UPDATES**

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- ❖ **December Monthly Paydate Change:** The University is shifting the December monthly pay date to the last weekday of the month, even though it is a season day. In the past, the December monthly pay date was before the holiday break. This new schedule will be ongoing beginning this year, and this year's monthly December pay date will be December 31. There are no changes to the biweekly pay schedule.
- ❖ **Benefits Open Enrollment - Now Through October 30:** Employees and retirees can make changes through [Wolverine Access](#) to health, dental, vision, and legal benefits plans for the 2021 calendar year during the open enrollment period (now through 5pm October 30). See The University Record article of 10/19/20 for useful information: <https://record.umich.edu/articles/open-enrollment-for-2021-benefits-running-now-until-oct-30/> or go to the Benefits web site: <http://hr.umich.edu/open-enrollment>.

Sincerely,  
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Interim Dean and Professor of Clinical Pharmacy



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