



Office of the Dean

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Dear Grad Students,

If you are a GSI, remember that any student in your class must be masked for your safety and their own. If you have a student in your class found not to be wearing a mask you may take the following steps:

- The GSI/GSSA may direct a student who is not wearing a mask in the classroom, lab, or studio to wear one.
- Extra masks are available at the COP Main Office. Additionally Dean Ellingrod has some extra Maize and Blue College of Pharmacy masks for graduate students. If you would like one please email her directly to arrange pick up. Quantities are limited.
- Should the student refuse to wear a mask, the GSI/GSSA may ask the student to leave.
- In the event the student continues to refuse to wear a mask, the GSI/GSSA may cancel a class for that day and should notify their immediate supervisor or chair of the appointing department, so that the supervisor/chair can address the noncompliance. A GSI/GSSA may not cancel a class without asking the student to first comply with the policy.
- If non-compliance is due to a stated medical need or disability, the GSI's supervisor or chair will work with the ADA coordinator and the student to determine if a reasonable accommodation has been granted or may be appropriate.

To my knowledge, this has not been a problem in our classes but I wanted to make sure

that you knew what to do if this issue were to come up in class. Also, please remember we have ways in which you can communicate your concerns or ask questions. These include the [Grad student Q and A page](#), as well as our COVID concern email. You can also email Dean Ellingrod directly at vellingr@med.umich.edu.

GENERAL INFORMATION *(applies to all)*

- ❖ **ResponsiBlue Mobile Screening App:** I don't know about you, but I have found the Responsiblue website to be a pain in the neck to use on my phone prior to entering a UM building. I know it is important from a COVID prevention perspective, but it was really cumbersome. **GOOD NEWS!** They have made it into a phone app! I used it this morning and it was a matter of simply entering a few keystrokes. Huge improvement from my perspective, so I thought I would share this with you:

ResponsiBLUE is a mobile screening tool (responsiblue.umich.edu) that helps faculty, staff, and learners keep the university healthy and reduce the spread of COVID-19. While the website has been in use for several weeks, **a mobile app is now available for download** onto your personal device. Click [HERE](#) to download the app.

- ❖ **Academic Calendar for Winter Term:** Not sure if you noticed, but the University released the academic calendar for next semester, [Winter 2021](#). It will differ from previous Winter semesters in that it has a later start (January 19, the Tuesday after MLK day). There is no provision for a Spring Break (bummer). Unlike our current semester, there is no plan to send students home before the Winter semester ends. Of course all of this could change if there were a change in the COVID situation.

What does this mean to the College of Pharmacy?

- We will follow the University calendar with our course schedules.
- We anticipate that, again, most College teaching will be conducted remotely.
- Exams will be conducted in person as they are this semester for PharmD program (in case you are a GSI!)

- ❖ **Library information:**

- Contactless pickup will be available on north campus starting Monday, September 21, at Music Library and Art, Architecture and Engineering Library.
- New Shapiro hours this Sunday, September 20 and students will be able to make onsite reservations, assuming availability, in addition to making advanced reservations. New hours will be:
 - o Sun: 1pm – 9pm
 - o Mon-Thu: 9am – 9pm

- Fri: 9am – 5pm
- Sat: Closed
- Duderstadt hours continue as follows:
 - Sat/Sun: 10am – 6pm
 - Mon-Fri: 8am – 9pm
- Building use: To date, the use of UM library study spaces, whether appointment-based or drop-in, has been modest. If you need a place to study, Shapiro and Duderstadt Libraries appear to have room for you at this point in the semester.

❖ **Emergency Preparedness:** As September is National Preparedness Month and it is the beginning of the academic year, please take some time to review our emergency and safety procedures.

- **Internal MyCOP intranet:** <https://pharmacy.umich.edu/mycop/emergency-immediate-response-procedures>
- **COP external website:** <https://pharmacy.umich.edu/emergency-information>
- **Lab Safety:** <https://pharmacy.umich.edu/mycop/college-services/safety>

I strongly encourage you to sign up to receive emergency alerts from the University. Information on that and other communication resources is at: <https://pharmacy.umich.edu/main-menu/emergency-information/stay-connected>.

❖ **“In the Interim” Program:** This week’s networking event will be with Dr. Jason Pogue, Clinical Pharmacy Professor and President of The Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists. We will discuss the latest in COVID Pharmacotherapy, the importance of professional organizations in networking, and much more on **Friday, September 24 from 5:30-6PM**. Don’t forget to register!

❖ **Walk with Us!** COP faculty and staff invite you to take a short 15-20 minute walk on campus so we can get to know you better, build our COP Community and promote wellness. Students who are interested can self-schedule on this [Google Sheet](#). Just select the tab of a faculty or staff member available and add your name and email address to a day and time that works best for you. You can find some bios for faculty and staff in our College of Pharmacy directory [HERE](#). In order to maintain safe social distancing practices, walks are limited to no more than 2 students per faculty/staff member. Don’t forget your mask!

❖ **Safe Medication Disposal Event:** The Fall event has been **cancelled**. Please stay tuned for information on the Spring event.

YOUR WELL-BEING

- ❖ **CAPS Update:** Dr. Jamie Yang is back. She is available to students Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. She can be reached by sending an email to request individual counseling services at juemeiya@umich.edu. All services will be provided virtually.

- ❖ **Wellness Groups Everywhere!** Here is another resource for groups that have the potential for a powerful impact for students. [HERE](#) is the schedule for upcoming events. Upcoming topics include “Living Remotely: How to Stay Connected and Maintain Wellbeing” and “How to Get Stuff Done: Strategies to Improve Motivation.” Motivation has consistently been a challenge with remote learning - be proactive and set the stage for good habits now!

- ❖ **The Social Dilemma:** Have you checked [THIS](#) documentary out on Netflix yet? Aside from all the insights this film offers, let’s talk about social media use. It can be a terrific platform for communication, collaboration, and the contribution of ideas. However, sometimes the information communicated can unintentionally affect others in a negative way. Too many messages, unnecessary chatter, offensive memes, and negative perspectives can weigh us down, distract, and overwhelm us. Always evaluate the information shared with your peers in the context of appropriateness and significance. I want to leave you with this quote, “Don’t mix your words with your mood, you can change your mood but you can’t take back your words.”

Sincerely,
Bruce A. Mueller
Interim Dean and Professor of Clinical Pharmacy
