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**Cc:** [Diez, Heidi](#); [Klein, Kristin](#)  
**Subject:** Update from the COP Dean's Office for PharmD Students  
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September 22, 2020

Dear PharmD Students,

Did you know the College is still offering “travel” funds for students even though “travel” as we know it for conferences is limited? If you are presenting at a virtual conference and there is a student registration fee, you can submit a request through the [Travel Funding Request Form](#). Keep in mind that you must take advantage of early-bird registration rates. Contact Dean Bostwick ([jkingsbu@med.umich.edu](mailto:jkingsbu@med.umich.edu)) with any questions. P4 students, please see below with information specific to ASHP Midyear.

We vaccinated 172 students, staff, faculty, family members, and pharmacy residents at our Flu Shot clinic this past weekend! Thanks to all that participated and special thanks to Drs. Diez and Klein for running a super organized and successful event!

## **CLASS-SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

### **P3 STUDENTS**

- Please see last weekend’s Dean Sweet’s email about the PCOA exam. This email requires **ACTION** from you to sign up to take this required national exam. The good parts about this exam?
  - You don’t have to study for it (and please do not study for it)
  - The exam uses the same rules and format as the national board exam (NAPLEX). You can practice using this PCOA exam and see the results showing your personal strengths and weaknesses to work on before you actually have to take the exam.

Historically UM COP students do very well on this exam, and you will too!

### **P4 STUDENTS**

- **ASHP Midyear:** ASHP will be offering new rates for the 2020 Midyear Clinical Meeting & Exhibition which took effect September 18, 2020 and are as follows:
  - Student *members* will have access to the 2020 virtual event **free of charge**,

inclusive of all meeting activities, including the Residency Showcase and Personnel Placement Services (PPS).

- See details on how to become a *student member* [HERE](#). The annual student membership fee is \$53 and may be worth the investment *if* you plan to participate in ASHP Midyear (vs the \$219 non-member registration fee). Keep in mind that things will look different this year and many programs may not participate in the same way -- evaluate whether this is right for you!
- If you are presenting a poster, and are not already a student member, the College has funds to support this \$53 fee. You can complete the form for reimbursement [HERE](#).

**See [midyear.ashp.org](http://midyear.ashp.org) for the latest meeting information and updates.**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION** (*applies to all*)

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❖ **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](http://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.
- IPPEs will not start until Jan 19 and will be completed by the end of the semester.
- APPEs will continue on the schedule as before with no changes brought forth by this announcement from central university.

❖ **Updated 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
  - o Fri: 9am – 5pm
  - o Sat: Closed
- Duderstadt hours continue as follows:
  - o Sat/Sun: 10am – 6pm
  - o 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 role of an infectious diseases pharmacist during a pandemic, 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

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❖ **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](mailto: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

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