September 1, 2020

Dear Students,

Welcome to the first week of school! It certainly was a different first day! I strolled through the hallways and peeked into classrooms. I watched Dr. Beleh lecture to a handful of socially distant students in NUB 1544 with another 70+ students online. The hallways are pretty empty and everyone has a mask on. I don’t know about you, but I cannot recognize anyone’s face these days with the masks! When you say hi, don’t be offended if I cannot tell who you are!

Let’s talk grades!

**BSPS STUDENTS**

The College of Pharmacy will use UM undergraduate grading policy for BSPS as described here: [https://www.provost.umich.edu/covid-19/20200820grading.html](https://www.provost.umich.edu/covid-19/20200820grading.html).

**GRADUATE STUDENTS**

In light of continuing issues that are facing graduate students we wanted you to be aware that Rackham has [extended certain academic deadlines](https://www.provost.umich.edu/covid-19/20200820grading.html) and [approved an adjusted grading policy](https://www.provost.umich.edu/covid-19/20200820grading.html) for the 2020 fall term.

**GENERAL INFORMATION (applies to all)**
University COVID-19 Concerns: The university has created a reporting line for COVID-19 concerns — 734-647-3000 — to be used by the campus community and Ann Arbor residents to report non-emergency compliance issues. Concerns reported the phone line will be addressed by ambassador program staff who will call or text responsible parties. After hours this number will be answered by the U-M Police Department.

If you are interested in tracking COVID cases on campus you can use the University’s COVID dashboard: https://campusblueprint.umich.edu/dashboard/.

Student Safety & Health:


- Information on what to do if you think you have COVID, have been exposed, how to get tested, or have questions: https://uhs.umich.edu/2019-nCoV.

- If students were tested for COVID-19 outside of University Health Service or Michigan Medicine, please report test results here. You will need to use your Level 1 U-M credentials, provide your UMID number, contact info, and provide details on the test taken.

U-M’s Notification Process from Contact Tracers:
Low-Risk Exposure: If you’ve attended an in-person or hybrid class with a student diagnosed with COVID-19 at the University Health Service, you will receive an email from the University Health Service alerting you of the situation along with instructions on the next steps.

High-Risk Exposure: If you’ve been in close contact with an individual diagnosed with COVID-19 at the University Health Service, you will be contacted directly by the U-M investigators with instructions on potential exposure, provide education about quarantining, assist with resources to successfully complete their quarantine, and initiate symptom tracking. Close contacts will be instructed to:

- Stay home for 14 days after their last contact with an infected individual.
- Check their temperature at least daily and watch for symptoms of COVID-19.
- Stay away from people who are at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19.
- If they develop symptoms, the contact should call UHS (students) or Occupational Health Services (staff/faculty) and they will be counseled to seek medical care.

❖ Changes to the University Bus System: Logistics, Transportation & Parking (LTP) is making major changes to care for you and the community while riding U-M buses. The plan, developed in collaboration with the College of Engineering (COE) and public health experts, includes a significant overhaul of the campus bus network. The team of experts conducted modeling to achieve a system that meets essential travel needs daily and peak demand, while also addressing passenger safety. Here are a few reminders, plus some new changes, which were implemented today:

- **Face coverings continue to be required for the safety of all riders and bus drivers:** No mask, no service.

- **Bus routes redesigned to approximately 15 minutes or less:** The Blue Bus routes have been completely overhauled to limit trip duration. The biggest changes include direct bus service between the Central Campus Transit Center and Pierpont Commons on North Campus with more frequent buses at peak times. Medical campus express routes to commuter parking areas are approximately 15 minutes or less. Please see the new U-M Bus Route Guide.

- **North-East Shuttle service change for fall semester:** The North-East Shuttle route, due to its length and lower utilization, was eliminated in the system redesign. A portion of the North-East shuttle route was utilized by community patients. To address this potential service gap, a new on-demand service for patients began today.
• **Riders per bus reduced by nearly half:** LTP has increased the bus frequency and the university has reduced class sizes to allow a reduction in riders per bus. Seated passengers only on the bus and no standing will reduce the riders per bus by nearly half.

For more details of these changes, [click here](#).

❖ **Conducting Central Student Business On-line:** For information on conducting business with the Registrar’s Office, Financial Aid Office, or Student Financial Services Office, go to [finaid.umich.edu/go-online](http://finaid.umich.edu/go-online) for options to chat and communicate with these offices.

**YOUR WELL-BEING**

If you are not already doing so, be sure to follow [@umichpharmacy](https://www.instagram.com/umichpharmacy/) on Instagram. We’ve been highlighting wellness topics every Wednesday. Stay tuned to hear more about wellness groups, imposter syndrome, and pharmacy phamilies!

CAPS also knows it’s important to reach out to students through social media. You can find them on Instagram and Facebook. Following [@umichcaps](https://www.instagram.com/umichcaps/) is a great way to incorporate more positive content into your social media accounts!

Are you interested in being a study subject for a COVID vaccine? Check this link: [https://umhealthresearch.org/#studies/HUM00185585](https://umhealthresearch.org/#studies/HUM00185585)

Keep each other safe and healthy!

Bruce A. Mueller
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