Dear PharmD Students,

Welcome to the first week of school! It certainly was an unusual first day! I strolled through the hallways and peeked into classrooms. I watched Dr. Beleh lecture to a handful of socially distant P2 students in NUB 1544 with another 70+ students online. Hopefully those students who are interested in attending in person classes will come to class once they settle into Ann Arbor so that we can keep offering that in-person option.

Not unexpectedly, there were a couple of day 1 glitches, especially with technology. Be sure to follow the steps outlined below under “Important Actions for Zoom” to ensure you are authenticating to U-M. This is really important (more details below). Thanks for your patience as the kinks get worked out.

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!

**CLASS-SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

**P1 STUDENTS**

- Watch for an email this week to launch this year’s inaugural **Community Wellness Groups**. These groups will consist of approximately 8-10 P1 students that will complete community-building and wellness activities on a weekly basis. These groups will help you build bonds with your classmates and also include activities that will improve upon your well-being. These groups will meet on a weekly basis for about 1-2 hours, depending on the activity. These groups are in no way to take time away from your school work or make you feel overwhelmed, but instead, will provide you with an outlet to get to know your peers a little better. These groups will be led by an
GENERAL INFORMATION

❖ **Important Action for Zoom:** In order for Zoom to work properly in our courses, including the ability to place students into breakout rooms, everyone needs to sign into Zoom umich for the first time using the SSO (single sign on). Outlined below are the steps for doing so. They are quick and easy, and as long as you check the ‘keep me signed in’ box you will only have to do this once.

1. Open the Zoom application on your device.
2. Click to check the ‘Keep me signed in’ checkbox and then click Sign in with SSO.
3. Enter umich in the Company Domain field and click Continue.
4. A tab will open in your browser on the U-M Weblogin page. Log in with your U-M credentials. (Note for med.umich.edu users: enter your level 1 credentials)
5. Once you sign in with U-M Weblogin, the Zoom application will open.

More information on logging in to Zoom can be found here: [https://documentation.its.umich.edu/zoom-login](https://documentation.its.umich.edu/zoom-login)

❖ **University Grading Policy:** The PharmD program will use the University grading policy that is being used for all undergraduates. Thanks to those who provided feedback during our process. [https://www.provost.umich.edu/covid-19/20200820grading.html](https://www.provost.umich.edu/covid-19/20200820grading.html)

❖ **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.

❖ **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/](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](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](https://uhs.umich.edu/2019-nCoV). 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.
YOUR WELL-BEING

If you are not already doing so, be sure to follow @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 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

Keep each other safe and healthy!

Bruce A. Mueller
Interim Dean and Professor of Clinical Pharmacy

Warm regards,

Holly Jablonski
Executive Assistant to the Associate Deans & Assistant to the Dean’s Office
University of Michigan College of Pharmacy
Email: hjablon@umich.edu
Cell: (810) 533-6525

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