Grad Students,

I hope you are doing well. I am sure that you have a lot of questions regarding the start of our fall semester and that you are also all aware that plans are rapidly changing. So if you have any questions for which you are still searching for answers, please use this link to ask them and we will answer them shortly: Grad Student Q&A Page. This link is also a great resource to see some of the questions other students have asked. Dean Ellingrod is eagerly waiting for your questions!

Some of the professional and graduate student groups on campus have asked the President, Provost, and University leadership to answer some of their questions about how our fall is going to look and resources available to students. Therefore in the interest of making sure you knew what Pharmacy’s specific plans and what resources are available to you, we have taken these questions and added them to the Grad Student Q&A page. Unfortunately for some of these questions, specifically the ones about parking and buses, we do not have answers and do not control the processes. We hear your concerns and wanted to let you know we are still hopeful that before fall we will have some answers. Please be assured that for those of you serving as GSIs this fall, Dean Ellingrod is thinking about the location of your lab, as well as your response to the survey she sent out earlier this month to determine assignments.

I also wanted to make sure that you were all aware of the COVID19 related resources available to you. The most up to date information is located on the Rackham COVID19...
Rackham Graduate Student Emergency Funds
The Rackham Graduate Student Emergency Fund program now has expanded eligibility criteria.

CARES Act Funding
The University of Michigan-Ann Arbor created an application for students to complete and submit if they would like to receive emergency grant support for COVID related expenses such as (but not limited to), food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care. You can apply directly through Wolverine Access or contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

Child Care Subsidy
The University of Michigan offers a Child Care Subsidy to students to assist with the cost of licensed child care of their young, dependent children. Students are temporarily eligible for reimbursement under the subsidy, regardless of the state, country, or agency of licensure. Previously, eligibility was limited to the State of Michigan.

What should I do if I am having internet/connectivity issues? Remote instruction requires flexibility and understanding of the varying resources available to individuals at home. Connectivity issues are a daily occurrence and can be stressful in the moment. The University provides helpful resources for internet connectivity issues and options to students for discounts with internet providers. We are updating our website so that students can find this information easily in MyCOP Student Business. In addition, if students are unable to afford adequate internet services, contact the Office of Financial Aid to apply for special assistance with internet or equipment costs related to COVID. If you experience connectivity issues, it is important to communicate the issue as soon as possible and be patient and flexible when challenges occur. Contact Student Services at the College so that we can point you in the right direction to solve the problem. To proactively prevent frustration by this limitation, please ensure that you have adequate internet bandwidth.

Your Wellbeing: Find out what Wellness Coaching is all about here, then check out Wellness Coaching opportunities through Wolverine Wellness to support behavior change! Common topics include sleep, nutrition, stress, anxiety management, academic concerns, and more. We all can use extra support during these tough times, so explore and strengthen your skill set for the semester ahead.

Sincerely,
Bruce Mueller
Interim Dean and Professor of Clinical Pharmacy