

Students, trainees, faculty and staff,

Thank you for your continued patience during this challenging time. Please continue to send your questions, ideas and concerns to esmdean@ucalgary.ca.

Facility access

- The University of Calgary is planning for increased facility access restrictions, and is collecting information to help identify faculty and staff who will continue to require access to UCalgary facilities.
- The Office of the Vice-President (Research) is co-ordinating this process for critical research activities. If you're participating in that process, you're **not required** to participate in this one.
- If you have not been included in the VPR's process, are in a role that's considered to be a critical function and will need access to onsite facilities, please visit cumming.ucalgary.ca/access and complete the building access form.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Melanie Spencer, security admin co-ordinator, at spencerm@ucalgary.ca.

Learning and working

- Clinically trained, geographic full-time (GFT) faculty members are being asked to contribute to front-line clinical efforts. Your contribution is needed, and much appreciated. Schedules will be co-ordinated through your department head and Zone Emergency Operations Centre. Thank you!
- Our Distribution Services team continues to send and receive mail as per usual with one exception. If you work in a lab space, please pick your mail up from Distribution Services between the hours of 1 and 3 p.m.
- If you need to check fax machines for incoming clinical correspondence, please develop a schedule within your group to ensure this is checked regularly.
- On Mar. 23, UCalgary announced the suspension of parking permit payroll deductions for faculty and staff. The Cumming School of Medicine (CSM) is working closely with Alberta Health Services (AHS) to clarify what will happen for those who park in AHS-owned parking facilities. I'll share more information on this when it becomes available.

Education

- Classes for all education programs — Bachelor of Community Rehabilitation, Bachelor of Health Sciences, Undergraduate Medical Education and Graduate Science Education (GSE) — are being offered remotely.
- GSE students and supervisors:
 - Read this [message](#) from Dr. Tara Beattie, associate dean of GSE.
 - Review these [guidelines](#) for effective remote supervision and join Tara at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Mar. 25, 2020, for a [Zoom seminar](#) on the same topic.
- Postdoctoral fellowship start dates have been delayed until after Jul. 1, 2020. This date is subject to change.

Research operations

- Although research teams and units have been asked to work remotely as much as possible, select activities may be allowed to continue onsite. These activities must be registered and approved by UCalgary. Visit the [guidance for researchers website](#) for details. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Paul Schnetkamp, associate dean of research infrastructure, at pschnetk@ucalgary.ca, or Dr. Gerald Zamponi, senior associate dean of research, at zamponi@ucalgary.ca.
- Policies related to the conduct of clinical research in AHS facilities have changed. All investigators involved in these studies are asked to [review the new policies](#).
- To promote collaboration, the CSM leadership team will compile a list of COVID-19 related research being conducted within the university. Please watch for further information on how to share your work with us.

Requests for COVID-19 supplies

- The Office of the Vice-President (Research) is co-ordinating institutional contributions for requests from external agencies for COVID-19 supplies, including reagents and personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Detailed instructions and a full list of reagents needed for use in provincial COVID-19 testing are available on the [guidance for researchers website](#).

Volunteers

- Over 360 faculty members have volunteered to help with contact tracing, or in any area where help is needed. I'm completely astounded by this number. Our CSM community is made up of the most caring and thoughtful individuals, and I couldn't be prouder. Well done, and thank you!
- If you're interested in volunteering, please sign up at cumming.ucalgary.ca/volunteer. You may use the "most relevant degree" field to outline your credentials and how you believe you'd be able to assist.
- We'll share the list of volunteers with AHS, and someone will be in touch if your help is required.

- If you're a physician who's open to clinical deployment, please volunteer through your department head.

Mental health during COVID-19

- If you're struggling, you're not alone. There are supports in place to help you.
- Remote mental health support is available to [students](#), [faculty and staff](#) who need it.
- Review these [mental health tips](#) for working from home.
- AHS has [resources and services](#) available to help you or someone you know.

To read previous CSM updates, visit cumming.ucalgary.ca/covid. For additional COVID-19 information and resources, visit ucalgary.ca/covid-19 or ahs.ca/covid.

Sincerely,

Jon Meddings, MD
Dean, Cumming School of Medicine
University of Calgary