

From the Office of the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

We continue to monitor developments for the COVID-19 situation and are committed to maintaining a safe environment for employees (faculty, staff), students and patients at TUSDM.

TRAVEL UPDATES.

It is important to pay close attention to the updated University Guidelines regarding International travel.

The American Dental Education Association (ADEA) just cancelled its meeting today. Based on the uniqueness of our patient facing mission, **we have decided that all TUSDM employees (faculty, staff) and students are restricted from travelling to all non-essential international/domestic meetings until at least April 30.**

A follow-up communication will be sent for anyone that has planned travel and has to cancel travel/accommodations etc.

We will continue to monitor the situation and will modify travel dates based on best practices.

DIDACTIC/CLINIC UPDATES.

Faculty and staff are preparing to work remotely if needed to help support operations and our educational programs as needed. Students should insure they have good off-campus access to the internet/computers.

The Clinical Council of Deans (Dean Karimbux, EAD Gonthier, Associate Deans Hanlon, Papageorge and Assistant Deans Amato and Ghaffari) have been meeting to anticipate, prepare and update our patients and faculty, students, staff on any new guidelines/policies regarding patient care as the situation arises.

Our plans will be shared with Chairs and Deans this Wednesday and then disseminated to managers, supervisors and directors. Appropriate school-wide communications will also be sent out.

A communication for patients has been developed and sent out about:

- best practices regarding hand hygiene,
- updating recent travel history at the front desk/with providers
- postponing elective treatments if they have any signs and symptoms of the flu

This written guideline will be provided in the next few days at reception desks if you want to share it with patients.

I thank you for your attention and vigilance.

Sincerely,

Dean Nadeem Karimbux, DMD, MMSc

Office of the Dean

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