



From the Office of the Dean

Dear D/IS20s, Masters Degree Candidates,

We have recently received notice from the University that the Commencement Ceremonies scheduled for May 17th have been canceled due to the Coronavirus outbreak. We are deeply saddened to miss the opportunity to celebrate your profound achievements in the traditional fashion with your family and friends. The University plans to develop a virtual university-wide commencement ceremony, and they have asked schools for ideas on what we might want to do. Typically, right after the University-Wide ceremony the Dental School would hold its own ceremony to grant degrees. We will hold a similar virtual ceremony on that date.

Other events (senior awards dinner, senior gala, , etc.) have also been affected due to current guidelines on gatherings and due to hotels/venue sites cancelling events.

We are entertaining ideas (as discussed with your class leadership) to celebrate the achievements of your class. For example, one idea is a weekend later this summer or fall during which we might conduct a scaled down version of the Senior Dinner, followed by the Class Gala on Saturday night and ending the weekend with a another/modified graduation ceremony.

Although this idea is only in its infancy and might prove unfeasible, we encourage you to share your thoughts about it and other ideas you might with your class leadership who will communicate them to us.

The closer we come to an end of the pandemic crisis and a return to some semblance of normalcy, we will develop and finalize a plan for you.

Sincerely,

Dean Karimbux
Associate Dean Kasberg

Katherine Vosker, Director of Student Affairs
Karen Alexander, Associate Director of Student Affairs

Deans Reflection

I have a group of mentees from each of our DMD classes. Typically, I go out to dinner with each group separately at the start of the year. It has been a tradition for all of the groups to go out at the end of the year to celebrate the “seniors” accomplishments. This year we may not be able to have this gathering. I will miss this event. I will miss it with all my heart.

I’ve watched “my” students go from “insecure” year 1’s to “knowing” year 2’s, back to “insecure clinical” year 3’s to competent, confident clinicians as year 4’s.

I will not let COVID-19 take away from the fact that “my Year 4’s” will soon be my colleagues, my fellow Doctors!.

We will all raise a glass to soon to be Dr. Shawn Kim, Dr. Qurratulann Khokar, Dr. Amanjot Sarao (My D4s).

We will all raise a glass to all of our D/IS 20s!

Sincerely,

Dean Karimbux

Office of the Dean
Tufts University School of Dental Medicine
One Kneeland St., 15th Floor
Boston, MA 02111
<http://dental.tufts.edu>