

From the Office of the Dean

June 23, 2020

Dear Members of the Tufts University School of Dental Medicine Community,

Earlier today you received a university-wide communication regarding the upcoming academic year.

Since we already began many academic and clinical activities and will soon resume others, we want to remind the TUSDM community that our academic calendar does not synchronize with the traditional semester type schedule followed by most schools on the Medford campus.

We planned many of our activities based upon several assumptions made about the COVID-19 pandemic (potential spikes in disease, constant good practices regarding distancing, de-densification of buildings etc.). We focused on adapting our preclinical and clinical activities to the new normal while maintaining both remote curricula and hybrid- remote/on site experience curricula.

Our curriculum plans include the following:

- **D24/23 Fall:** Virtual didactic curriculum starting July 27, 2020.
- **D24/23 Winter/Spring:** In-person preclinical, clinical and virtual didactic curriculum.
- **D22 Fall:** Virtual/in-person Fall term. Virtual Start on 8/3/2020 for the first 4 weeks followed by an in-person start 9/8/2020 for rest of the Fall term. Didactic, Preclinical and clinical courses planned for September-December time period.
- **D21 Fall/Winter:** In-Person clinical Fall and Winter terms.
- **AGE Residency programs Fall:** Start of Fall term on July 1, 2020 with a combination of virtual/remote and in-person educational session. Resumption of clinical activities in phases.

Faculty, staff and students/residents have been patient and working diligently to create real-time adaptations we made to programs. Expansive upgrades were completed throughout the building. We look forward to your return to school this summer, whether that be remotely or in person. By January, we hope to see all of you again as we return all four DMD classes and PG residents to a safe environment and robust didactic, pre-clinical and clinical curricula. We will continue to monitor local and national guidelines and will adapt according to the circumstances, keeping everyone's health and safety in mind.

I remain inspired by the efforts of all as we strive to return to a new normal.

Dean Nadeem Karimbux