



Cooper Medical School of Rowan University

April 2, 2020

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff:

This has been another productive week for CMSRU. I'm proud to report that our virtual ALGs and lectures are successful. I continue to be impressed by the agility and resourcefulness of our Office of Medical Education, our faculty, the IT team and our students. None of us expected that we would be required to transition to an online educational format this year, but everyone met the challenge and is doing what is necessary. I appreciate the dedication, hard work and patience of all involved in this endeavor.

When they are not in their virtual classes or studying, many of our students continue to participate in "safe" volunteer activities to support our clinical partner, Cooper University Health Care, and the residents of Camden. This week, the reusable face mask project has moved into a new phase. Yesterday, [Rowan University announced that they are making public the design and instructions for the masks](#). This will enable anyone with a 3D printer, anywhere in the world, to be able to make their own masks. Additionally, [M3 student Nicole Jochym was featured in the media for her leadership in Sew Masks Philly](#), a Facebook group she organized to make homemade face masks. The group now has more than 3,000 volunteers and they've given away 1,200 cloth masks. We would also like to thank Jim Grinias, an assistant professor who teaches analytical chemistry in the College of Science and Math, who made hand sanitizer from a World Health Organization recipe to donate to Cooper for emergency use. [Click here to read about this project](#).

We are continuing on the path of making it possible for fourth year students who wish to graduate early to do so. We hope to have an announcement on this soon. Additionally, we continue to explore plans for a CMSRU virtual graduation celebration as a substitute for the in-person commencement that was scheduled for May 14. We know nothing will replace the excitement of being hooded on the stage in your regalia, but we believe it's still important to mark this milestone. Please be sure to respond to the survey that is being sent by the Office of Student Affairs on this topic.

I'd like to end by sharing this [beautiful, inspirational video prepared by the high school students from last summer's MEDacademy](#), under the direction of Kristyn Kent in the Office of Diversity and Community Affairs, which expresses appreciation to our clinical faculty on the front lines during this pandemic. [MEDacademy is CMSRU's summer program](#) for high school students interested in careers in medicine.

Please continue to follow state guidance on social distancing and sheltering in place. My continued good wishes to all for good health.

Sincerely,

Annette C. Kelioli, M.D.

Annette C. Reboli, MD
Dean and Professor of Medicine