



Cooper Medical School of Rowan University

April 20, 2020

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff:

Today, 27 members of the Class of 2020 officially graduated from CMSRU! These students completed all their requirements and volunteered to graduate early so they could join the health care workforce or manage other personal responsibilities. I'm so proud of each and every one of them! It's been a pleasure to have them as students at CMSRU. Please join me in offering congratulations to:

Dr. Karen Baddoura

Dr. Olivia Coburn-Flynn

Dr. Paul Comber

Dr. Sherley Demetrius

Dr. Chandani Desai

Dr. Dane Dickey

Dr. Connor Dugan

Dr. Sharmi Elamin

Dr. George Kilzi

Dr. Cody Long

Dr. Gabriel Makar

Dr. Megan Monroe

Dr. Ogechukwu Obiejesi

Dr. Andie O'Laughlin

Dr. Melissa Olsakowski

Dr. Sean O'Neill

Dr. Prarthi Patel

Dr. Shaili Patel

Dr. Rylie Pietrowicz

Dr. Timothy Renzi

Dr. Nicholas Russo

Dr. Mary-Catherine Skoulos

Dr. Richard Suarez

Dr. Alina Tsouristakis

Dr. Vincent Verchio

Dr. Laura Wolf

Dr. Syed Zaidi

The remainder of the class will graduate in May, and we will celebrate the accomplishments of the entire Class of 2020 during a special **CMSRU Virtual Commencement on Thursday, May 14 at 1 p.m.** Please watch for additional announcements on how you can be part of this CMSRU-wide event.

The Class of 2022 students have a busy two weeks ahead of them before concluding their second year of medical education. This week, they will complete their final Foundations of Medical Practice written examination in the morning on Tuesday, April 21st. The Neuro-Psych course practical examination is scheduled for delivery Friday, April 24th, in the afternoon. Next week the class will complete their final psychiatry mini OSCE on Thursday, April 30th, and their final Neuro-Psych written examination on Friday, May 1st. The class will also complete their third and final formative Comprehensive Basic Science Self-Assessment (CBSSA) on Monday, May 4th.

[Prometric has communicated that they will begin testing on May 1, 2020 on a site-by-site basis for Step 1 and Step 2 CK, according to local public health practices and guidelines.](#)

Prometric understands there will be a strong demand for seat time and indicated that they will do everything possible to build capacity for the backlog. There may be some modifications for the onsite check-in procedure. More to come as news becomes available. Step 2 CS is still closed through May 31, 2020.

This past Saturday, the Office of Admissions hosted a **Virtual Second Look Day** for students accepted to the incoming Class of 2024. The program was well-subscribed with 86 accepted students participating. The event included live and recorded presentations, and lasted for approximately two and half hours. One highlight of the program was a live panel discussion addressing questions submitted by accepted students. Panelists included the following CMSRU students: Marina Najjar (M1), Ashley Woodford (M1), Roberto Gonzalez Merino (M2), Brian Schonewald (M2), Michael Monaghan (M3), Maha Elgawly (M3), and Adamma Spearman (M3), along with myself and Dr. William Kocher. Coordinating the program were members of the IT team, including Jim Bongiovanni, Katherine Stewart, Ian Martini, and John Dill, along with Jeri Kaminski and Gisselle Mayock from the Office of Admissions. Thank you all for helping to represent our school in a positive and professional manner.

This weekend, Jocelyn Mitchell-Williams, MD, PhD, Associate Dean for Diversity and Community Affairs, was a guest on **6ABC's** "Inside Story," hosted by news anchor Matt O'Donnell. Dr. Mitchell-Williams provided information on why the African American community has a higher incidence and mortality from COVID-19. [Click here to watch this excellent interview.](#)

[Finally, I'm happy to share this video of CMSRU student volunteers assembling masks using new filters that mimic an N95.](#) Deep Patel continues to lead this dedicated group of volunteers.

This week, we are holding three virtual Town Hall Meetings for the M1-M3 classes! I look forward to speaking with students during this virtual event. Stay healthy!

Sincerely,



Annette C. Reboli, MD
Dean and Professor of Medicine