

Dear Faculty, Staff and Students,

Midwestern University Glendale Campus Research Day was scheduled for today. It is a wonderful event that showcases many students and faculty research projects. I have always loved attending this event on both campus; it provides me with a chance to visit with eager students presenting their topics and findings, and connect with our faculty as they share why their research is significant to the health and well-being of others. It is a big event and many members of this academic community enjoy Research Day. Last year, over 160 research posters were presented on the Glendale Campus and 165 research posters on the Downers Grove Campus. This has substantially grown over the years. I can remember Research Days many years ago and we were happy if we had 10 posters.

Over the years, research has become an integral component in all of our colleges. It provides faculty with the ability to follow their passion for inquiry and allows students to discover new interests in their field. For faculty it is an honor to have one's work published in peer-reviewed scientific journals; they provide students with the ability to expand their knowledge, experience the importance of continual learning and scientific discovery, and also publish their work. This year the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs will be creating an electronic abstract book to showcase the research of our faculty, research staff and students.

Midwestern University invests over \$33.1 million each year in research between our two campuses in the form of equipment, laboratory supplies, support of funded research assistants and faculty research time. This investment allows our faculty to submit grants, conduct research, and publish their findings. It is very significant that this past year our faculty have submitted 63 grants in the amount of \$10,215,548, reflecting substantial work by our faculty. Many collaborations between faculty and colleges are very effective and reflect our One Health initiatives.

Today April 17, 2020 the COVID-19 Response Team met and discussed a number of key issues impacting our students.

This announcement pertains to students currently enrolled in Spring 2020 Quarter

- For all students participating in spring classes online, continue your distance learning through April and May, 2020. There is no change to your current schedule.
- Students who need to return to campus to participate in the laboratory classes and clinical experiences are asked to return to campus on Monday, May 18, 2020. Previously, the return date was the first week of May; however with the continuation of the Stay-At-Home Executive Orders in the State of Illinois and the State of Arizona, I feel it is best to take additional time away from campus. I have been assured by the Academic Deans that they have enough hours available to make up any lost time during this public health crisis.
- The May 18, 2020 date does not apply to students in the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine. The Academic Deans from these colleges are working on establishing a date to return to campus for workshops and clinical rotations with our hospital partners.

- The State of Arizona has a travel restriction for anyone coming from an area with substantial community spread, currently the New York Tri-State Area. If you are returning to the Glendale Campus on May 18, 2020, please note that as of this time, there is a mandatory 14-day quarantine period prior to attending any class or function on campus. Please plan your arrival in Arizona accordingly and regularly check State of Arizona Department of Health Services.
- The State of Illinois has a similar policy, “depending on your travel history, you can be asked to stay home for 14-day period from the time you left an areas of widespread or ongoing community spread”.

New Summer, 2020 Quarter Classes and Incoming Students Schedules

- We are currently reviewing all start dates for our Summer 2020 Academic Quarter. We are taking into consideration all colleges and programs scheduled this summer for both incoming and continuing students. Within the next week we are confident we can publish a schedule to provide all of you with our new guidelines.
- All of us are looking forward to having you on campus. Thank you for your patience.

Today let’s celebrate our research faculty. This public health care crisis is an important reminder of the need for medical research with scientists who look beyond the current body of knowledge and seek new medications, new treatments, novel testing and new modalities. As the world faces new viruses and illnesses, may our dedicated and wise faculty find solutions in their laboratories and in their important work. Their commitment to our students and research is admirable and deserving of our support.

May you all have a restful and peaceful weekend.

Be well.

Dr. G.