Einstein-Campuswide Message from Dean Gordon F. Tomaselli, M.D.
Some New Updates and Applauding Great Teamwork
Mon 3/16/2020 7:56 PM

Dear Einstein Community:

Ever since the COVID-19 crisis erupted, I’ve had hundreds of conversations with a wide range of people who work throughout Einstein and Montefiore. I want to thank everyone for their incredibly hard work, dedication, and support of both of our institutions and our fellow community members.

We are moving at an incredibly fast clip. New policies and procedures are being disseminated on a daily, even hourly basis. Everyone is doing the absolute best they can during a time of great uncertainty and high stress.

While we have accomplished a great deal, there is still much to be done, as the impact of the COVID-19 virus will be with us for months and its course will be difficult to predict.

Below are examples of recent actions taken by the College of Medicine:

**Working Remotely:** New guidelines have been sent to all supervisors. Please contact your direct report to see how they apply to you. And check our [COVID-19 site](#) for a page dedicated to helping those working from home adapt to telecommuting.

**Medical Students:** Our Y3 and Y4 students have had their clerkships temporarily suspended, effective yesterday evening. We made this decision after conferring with our colleagues at many other medical schools. We are convening site leaders
to consider alternatives for the educational programs and roles for students in supporting our management of the pandemic and patient care needs.

**Falk Recreation Center:** The Center will close at 8:00 p.m., tonight, until further notice, after all gyms in New York were ordered to close by the State government.

**Testing of Einstein Employees:** We are working very hard to have on-campus testing for Einstein employees with potential exposure to COVID-19, as we know that is a major concern. We will update you as testing becomes available.

My senior leadership team is issuing communications on a daily basis and I ask you to read each of them carefully. We are also in the process of reorganizing and better coordinating our communications efforts so they all pass through the Department of Communications and Public Affairs. Our goal is to produce focused and concise communications and ensure consistency of messaging. As part of this effort, we are updating and reorganizing our dedicated COVID-19 website.

In the meantime, I ask you to be healthy and safe by following the guidelines that we all know well at this point: Wash your hands frequently; do not touch your face and; most important, practice social distancing, which is the best way to prevent the spread of this disease. We all have a major role to play in interrupting the transmission of the disease.

I want to thank you all again for your tremendous dedication, cooperation, and hard work. Einstein and the people who work here are truly amazing. I am deeply proud of each and every one of you.

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