

## 1/11/21 –Another Return to Campus Update

Hello students,

Thanks for your patience as faculty and staff work out the details to enable a delayed return to campus for you. They are planning completely remote options through Friday January 29.

You should be getting more information soon from individual courses, if you have not already. Please feel free to direct specific questions to course directors and/or coordinators. Here are some highlights:

The MS1 POM CCE is cancelled. The grading rubric will be changed to reflect two CCEs rather than three. The CCE will be replaced by an SP experience with a remote interview and writeup.

MS2 small group POM sessions will be remote. GU/GYN sessions from 1/15 and 1/22 will be rescheduled.

FRM and PTP small groups will be remote.

Your unit courses will offer remote instruction, including for anatomy.

For students who return to campus and are interested, the anatomy lab will be open. They will have a schedule and PPE will be required.

Our faculty and staff are putting extraordinary effort into this year's courses. Please join me in thanking them! I am certain most of them are working twice or three times as long as they have in years past, and many of them have other responsibilities as well, plus family obligations!

I know this is more work for you, too, and that videoconferences are tiring and even the most ergonomic chair is uncomfortable when you sit in it for 8-10 hours a day. Thanks for your flexibility and understanding, also!

Please read the Upstate COVID updates daily. Remember to start your self-monitoring in advance of your return to campus and plan for COVID testing upon return. Vaccine appointments are open to MS1 and MS2 students who are returning to campus. Details for all of these things are in the COVID updates.

We are making progress but still will be wearing masks and keeping our distance for many weeks, likely even months. Stay well and stay strong!

Dr. Lesperance