

## Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC



Dear USC Dental Community:

Thank you to those faculty and staff that recently participated in the Town Hall: State of the School on Tuesday. As I shared, we are working diligently to get our operation – in its entirety – up and running as soon as possible, understanding the most important piece is the health and well-being of our students, faculty, staff and patients.

***We have received approval to resume operations (implementing new COVID guidelines and safety measures) in the Sim lab, effective immediately.***

- ***This initial phase will support grad specialty program usage, including benchtop calibration sessions.***
- ***Dr. Mike Mulvehill will be working with the Class of 2020 to begin practice sessions for upcoming licensure exams.***
- ***DDS operations within the Sim lab will resume the week of July 6. Students, more information will be forthcoming, including schedules and \*new\* operational procedures from the Offices of Academic Affairs [Jessica Ostroff for D1s & D2s and Ruth Perez for D3s & D4s; All communications will be sent via email to students' usc.edu addresses] and Clinical Affairs.***
- ***Faculty and staff will be hearing from their Division Chairs, supervisors or designees about their reporting schedules (also to your usc.edu accounts).***

Most importantly, as we look to return to our operations – teaching and clinical

– it is imperative that we all recognize how our actions outside of the school environment could dramatically impact our operations within the school. I implore you to thoughtfully consider those recommendations being shared by the CDC and WHO relative to the health and well-being of yourself and those around you. In addition, we are heavily monitoring and working with state and local officials, as well as USC, when it pertains to those rising cases of COVID-19 in and around Los Angeles. Simple steps, like wearing face masks in public and regularly washing your hands, can protect you — and others — from spreading this deadly virus. In addition, making sound and mindful choices throughout your days and evenings can ensure your safety, as well as the safety of our faculty, staff, students and patients. Nationwide, exposures have been tied to social gatherings; each and every one of you has a lot invested in your education. Please be thoughtful about whether attending such gatherings is the best choice at this time.

We also want to reiterate that everyone must complete the [mandatory Covid-19 training](#) by the end of June. If you have not completed the training, you will not be permitted inside our facilities.

We are currently in the process of installing HEPA filters in the DDS clinics in an effort to have that clinic compliant with all new standards. Once completed we, of course, will keep everyone updated as this will directly impact the clinic operation timeline.

Stay safe, healthy and Fight On!

*Avishai*

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Professor of Dentistry



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