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2020-04-16 A Message from Chancellor Roth

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HEALTH SCIENCES

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

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A Message from Chancellor Roth

Dear Colleagues:

We have all had our lives – and our work – disrupted by the need to maintain social distancing as a tactic for slowing the spread of the novel coronavirus. This has been difficult for everyone, but today I'd like to single out our faculty for their tremendous efforts in the face of great adversity.

Even before a formal decision was made to close campus for the rest of the semester, our faculty had started the process of transitioning their didactic instruction to virtual platforms, enabling our learners to keep pace in their studies. This process has been a success, in my view.

Our faculty members have also made extraordinary efforts to engage with their learners outside of their instructional role to ensure their emotional well-being in the face of so much uncertainty. This speaks to their incredible dedication as teachers and mentors – and what makes our educational enterprise unique.

Meanwhile, I'd like to share some important information that will be of interest to our junior faculty forwarded by Amy J. Levi, PhD, CNM, our Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, regarding the university's tenure process:

"The Office of the Provost, in cooperation with the Faculty Senate Academic Freedom and Tenure and Operations Committees, have issued an extension of the tenure clock for those who are currently in a tenure-track position," she writes.

“This does not apply to those who have already submitted their materials for evaluation in FY 20. Additionally, faculty teaching in the spring semester of FY 20 will have the option of opting out of the inclusion of student evaluations of teaching during the annual evaluation process for 2020 due to the disruption in expected classroom delivery during this past term.”

Finally, Barbara C. Sanchez, an administrative assistant in the Department of Family & Community Medicine, told me about the heroic work her colleagues have been doing.

“They have all held strong and have sacrificed so much for their community,” she writes. “I am so proud to work with this group of amazing individuals. Special shout-out to Dr. David Rakel and Dr. Gabriel Palley for spearheading the response teams that they have put together.”
Kudos, everyone.

As far as what’s happening in our facilities as of 8am this morning:

UNMH Adults

# of Patients Under Investigation (Rule Out) COVID Inpatients	6
# of Patients Under Investigation (Rule Out) COVID Vents	2
# of Positive COVID Inpatients	21
# of Positive COVID Vents	14
# of COVID Admits in ED	0
# of COVID PALS Patients	0

UNMH Pediatric

# of Patients Under Investigation (Rule Out) COVID Inpatients	3
# of Positive COVID Inpatients	0
# of COVID Admits in PED	0
# of COVID PALS Patients	0

SRMC

# of Patients Under Investigation (Rule Out) COVID Inpatients	4
# of Patients Under Investigation (Rule Out) COVID Vents	0
# of Positive COVID Inpatients	7
# of Positive COVID Vents	4
# of COVID PALS Patients	0

If you want to keep track of current patient counts for New Mexico, hospitalizations and the number of those who have recovered please visit the [New Mexico Department of Health website](#) for the latest COVID-19 updates.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul B. Roth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" and last name "Roth" being the most prominent parts.

Paul B. Roth, MD, MS
Chancellor for Health Sciences
CEO, UNM Health System
Dean, UNM School of Medicine