

Subject: July 10 update to the GSDM community on coronavirus
Date: Friday, July 10, 2020 at 4:15:23 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: owner-dent-staff-list@bu.edu on behalf of GSDM Office of the Dean
To: GSDM Office of the Dean
CC: Hutter, Jeffrey W
Priority: High
Attachments: image001.png

Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine
Office of the Dean

Dear colleagues,

What a week it's been! It was such a joy to see activity once again in the hallways and patient treatment spaces of our buildings at 635 Albany Street and 930 Commonwealth Avenue and to welcome back our patients, as well as our faculty, staff, students, and residents.

Update on In-Person Patient Care

We had a very successful return to patient care, seeing about 75-85 patients a day at 635 Albany Street and about 55 patients a day at 930 Commonwealth Avenue. We are focusing on addressing the needs of current patients of record first.

The COVID-19 screening process has worked well at both 635 Albany Street and 930 Commonwealth Avenue, and we are also following up with patients 48 hours after their appointment to confirm that they have not developed any symptoms since they were treated.

Patients have reported being very impressed with our processes and protocols and feeling very safe. I would like to congratulate everyone on a job very well done!

Simulation Learning Centers

As you know, a brand-new Simulation Learning Center (SLC), located on the third floor of 635 Albany Street, was built as part of the second phase of our GSDM Addition & Renovation Construction Project. Our IT team has been hard at work to bring online all of the technology housed in this new space, and I am thrilled to announce that we will officially open our new SLC on Thursday, July 16, 2020.

The new SLC has truly state-of-the-art technology, including Dentsply Sirona simulators, Omnicams, ultrasonic scalers, electric handpieces, curing units for composite restorations, a high-speed evacuation system, and much more. This new facility will allow our school to reach new heights as it greatly enhances the predoctoral educational experience of our students and in so doing, better prepares them for providing outstanding oral healthcare in the patient treatment centers.

While there are 117 individual student stations and 2 teacher stations in the new SLC, current social-distancing guidelines limit the capacity to 50 students / residents and five faculty members. To truly simulate the patient treatment centers, any individual using the

SLC must be in [full personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#): surgical mask (in place of a N95 mask), face shield, disposable gown, and gloves. Individuals using the SLC will be expected to maintain a six-foot distance from other people at all times, and students / residents will be placed at their respective simulators in ways that comply with this requirement.

To ensure that all students / residents have appropriate access to the SLC, we will be scheduling them in multiple groups; faculty will facilitate these sessions and continue to provide a high-level education to our students / residents.

Finally, we will permanently close our existing Simulation Learning Center, located at 650 Albany Street, on Friday, August 28, 2020. The existing SLC has been a critical component of a GSDM education for two decades, since it first opened on September 30, 2000. From the very first day, the SLC offered students and residents a technologically advanced, personalized learning experience unmatched by any other dental school, and as the dental profession continued to evolve, we introduced cutting-edge technologies, like CAD/CAM and PrepCheck in 2014, so that our students would always be at the forefront of the field.

We have repurposed some of the equipment from the SLC for use at 635 Albany Street, and will be decommissioning the remainder of the equipment after the SLC closes in late August.

In closing, it has been a true pleasure seeing so many of you back on campus this week, and I look forward to seeing many more of you in the weeks ahead. Mrs. Hutter and I continue to keep all of you in our thoughts and prayers and to send our best wishes to you and your loved ones for your continued health and safety.

Sincerely,

Dean Hutter

