Dear Parents,

The past eight months have been filled with uncertainty, but it has been amazing to see the creativity and tenacity of our BUSM medical students. Since March of 2020 our students have seen so much change. Curricula were redesigned and faculty pivoted to remote teaching with BU’s Learn from Anywhere model. We graduated the fourth-year class early at the governor’s request so they could provide assistance with COVID-19 patients at our hospitals. Research and clinical activity ramped down and then back up.

Class rooms and research labs have been reorganized for physical distancing, but innovation and learning continue. Please know that BUSM faculty and staff are dedicated to providing the safest possible environment for our students. The academic community is committed to keeping our students in the classroom, by remaining compliant with frequent screening, testing, and contact tracing.

The pandemic has exposed longstanding racial health inequities within the country. BUSM students and faculty are speaking up and demanding change, as well as actively evaluating and updating curriculum. BUSM Student Affairs and Diversity & Inclusion
offices are holding regular meetings addressing race and racism within the community. At the School of Medicine, we are lucky to have the opportunity to draw inspiration from our alumni like Rebecca Lee Crumpler, MD, (MED 1864), who was first Black woman to graduate from a US medical school, her career was dedicated to addressing the health inequities of people of color.

Additionally to ensure the well-being of students during this challenging time Student Affairs is holding open office hours every day of the week. Students are encouraged to use this resource. You also might be interested in viewing the COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions for Medical Students, which is updated on a regular basis to incorporate answers to questions received by Dean Garg (Medical Education) and Dean Jackson (Student Affairs).

Sincerely,
Lee & Rachelle Silver
BUSM Parents 2017 & 2019

CAMPUS NEWS

2020 Annual Dean's Update
Boston University School of Medicine Dean and Boston University Medical Campus Provost Karen Antman, MD released the annual school report which includes updates on initiatives, departments, and centers.

Read more

Marcelle Willock, MD, Pioneering Physician and BUSM Leader; Opening Doors
Willock became a professor and chair of the BUSM anesthesiology department. She was a pioneer—the first Black woman to chair a department at the school.

Read more

Welcome to BUSM Webinar
The webinar features BUMC Provost and BUSM Dean Karen Antman, MD, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Angela Jackson, MD, and Associate Dean of Medical Education, Priya Garg, MD.

Learn more
White Coat Ceremony
COVID-19 has resulted in new and creative ways to celebrate milestones while embracing technology, and the chance to grow and learn as a virtual community. This was certainly true for the BU School of Medicine’s 172nd entering class who gathered together for a virtual White Coat Ceremony.
Learn more

ANATOMY LAB GETS FACELIFT

Thanks to a generous gift by Albert and Debbie Rosenthaler, BUSM’s Gross Anatomy Lab is getting a major facelift!
According to Waterhouse Professor and Anatomy & Neurobiology Chair Jennifer I. Luebke, PhD, this financial gift allowed the department to make needed renovations to the lab’s infrastructure.
Read more

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Masis Parunyan, (MED’22)
The BUSM Alumni Office features current medical students in a spotlight segment. Click the link below to read what makes BUSM special to Masis and the most memorable patient interaction to date!
Read more

BUSM NEWS
Gravestone dedicated to the first Black female medical doctor in the US

The Boston Globe | In 1864, Rebecca Lee Crumpler became the first Black woman to receive a medical degree in the United States from BUSM's predecessor institution - the New England Female Medical College. This summer, a gravestone dedication ceremony was held at Fairview Cemetery after a successful fundraising campaign for the tombstones.

Read more | View NBC News video

CTE, Contact Sports Play Linked to REM Sleep Behavior Disorder

The Brink | BU researchers have discovered that REM sleep behavior disorder, which causes people to physically act out dreams while still sleeping, occurs in a third of contact sports athletes with chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE).

Read more

‘We can’t ever go to the doctor with our guard down’: Why Black women are 40% more likely to die of breast cancer

Fortune | Julie Palmer, Director of the Slone Epidemiology Center and Black Women’s Health Study Principal Investigator, is featured in this Fortune article discussing healthcare disparities faced by Black women with breast cancer.

Read more

Researchers Produce Superior SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Test

Using a modified version of a standard serology test, BUSM researchers have found SARS-CoV-2 reactive antibodies in samples collected before the start of the pandemic, revealing antibody immunity to the virus that causes COVID-19 in unexposed people.

Read more
PTSD Interacts with Klotho Gene, May Cause Premature Aging in the Brain

Researchers from the National Center for PTSD at VA Boston Healthcare System and BUSM now have found that a variant in the klotho gene, a gene previously associated with longevity, interacts with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) to predict accelerated aging in brain tissue.

Read more

RESOURCES FOR YOUR STUDENTS

BUMC COVID-19 INFORMATION

Click here for more information on COVID-19 guidelines as it pertains to the Boston University Medical Campus.

COVID-19 FAQs for Medical Students

Click here for frequently asked questions by your medical students and click here for the BUSM academic calendar.

Back2BU Guide for Graduate and Professional Students

Click here for more information on your student returning to campus and Learn from Anywhere.