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Assistant Dean and Program Director

Touro University California
Public Health Program



Message from the Director:

We hope this communication finds you well as we all navigate uncertain and rapidly changing times in our country and the world. The Public Health Program at Touro University California (TUC) continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic very closely. Our students, partners and friends are in our thoughts as we adjust ourselves to living and working in an evolving situation.

Today, Public Health professionals are more important to our nation and our world than at any other time in recent history. TUC's MPH Program is grateful for the work that you do. We encourage you to be in touch with us and let us know how we can support you at this time. If you are working on the front-lines of the COVID-19 pandemic, please share your stories and let us know how we can support your efforts.

We'd like share information about how the MPH Program is responding and how we plan to continue serving our constituents:

- To ensure the safety of our students and school community, all students have been engaged in remote distance learning since March 12th.
- For most coursework, the MPH Program is uniquely positioned to transition to an online and distance learning model as a result of our dual degree program with Touro University Nevada (TUN) through which we offer synchronized distance learning courses for TUN medical students to obtain their MPH degrees without having to come to the California campus.
- We are working closely with all of our students (IMPH, Joint PA/MPH, PharmD/MPH, and DO/MPH) to ensure this transition is seamless and functional, meeting all programmatic and academic requirements.
- On March 13, 2020, the MPH Program suspended all global health field study operations for students in international placements and required all students to depart their country of assignment.
- Shortly thereafter, the MPH Program suspended all domestic field study placements, as we closely monitored the impact of COVID-19 in the U.S. and the evolving requirements for social distancing.
- To avoid any interruption or delayed pathways toward graduation, we developed and arranged appropriate field study options that allowed many of our students to continue their field study placements remotely and provided additional opportunities to work on applicable projects under the direction of their Public Health faculty advisors.
- On March 18, 2020, Solano County was instructed to "shelter at home" and the TUC campus closed to all but essential workers. The entire Touro College and University system then moved to fully remote operations, closing all its campuses to non-essential employees.
- In the midst of these changes and with the remaining unpredictability of our nation's status regarding this pandemic, the MPH Program moved to halt all summer field study placements and retain remote instruction for all students for the summer 2020 term.

You are an important part of the MPH Program family and we are confident in our ability as a community to pull together with professionalism, kindness and compassion and emerge stronger through this shared experience.

We hope that you and your families remain safe and well.

Sincerely,

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