



March 13, 2020

Dear Faculty Colleagues:

As you know, yesterday we implemented the second phase, or "Step 2" of the [UMB/UMMS Recommendations and Policies Regarding COVID-19](#), which will involve canceling events and in-person instruction, suspending all work-related travel, and shifting to telework, where applicable.

Although all in-person didactic instruction is suspended as of this weekend and replaced with an alternative means of delivery, the university remains open and research activities requiring physical presence on campus may generally continue with appropriate social distancing. I am assembling a Research Task Force today to address the various aspects of research, including clinical research, basic laboratory research, research involving animals, and research primarily involving data or via electronic means.

If you believe that your research environment is unsafe relative to COVID-19, please contact your supervisor immediately.

UMB leadership will follow up with additional details in the next few days specifically addressing research activities for each school. We appreciate your continued patience and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS
Interim President