Dear Colleagues,

We hope that you and yours are all doing as well as possible and have been able to enjoy the lovely weather that the GTA has been experiencing this week.

As we move towards the gradual reopening of the UTM campus over the next few months, we'll try to strike a balance between keeping you informed and not inundating you with messages; between announcing plans, but not getting ahead of what is still a very fluid situation.

The University of Toronto is being guided by the province on return to work timelines and best practices. You should know that U of T's senior administration, including Human Resources, Environmental Health and Safety, and Legal Services, are finalizing workplace guidelines that all three campuses will implement as faculty, librarians, staff and students return to campus in September. These will dictate how many people can be in a gathering place at one time; how people can safely enter and exit a classroom or auditorium; when wearing a mask (non-medical or medical) is required and when it is recommended; additional sanitation measures; air quality monitoring; management of eating areas; and many other issues.

Meanwhile, the UTM Dean's Office has established working groups and appointed special advisors to act as conduits for information coming into and emerging from our campus, and to develop UTM-specific strategies for remote and in-person teaching in the Fall. In the coming weeks, we will post a list of FAQs on the dean's website and UTM Together 2020 subsite to address such matters as information security, accessibility, and privacy in online teaching environments. UTM's Executive Committee will take responsibility for questions that come forward from faculty and staff, and need to be referred to U of T's senior administration.

We recognize that caregiving, health concerns, and the labour of activism against racial and social injustice fall to some members of the UTM community more than others. Those of you who need extra support, please know you can reach out to your chairs or managers, and take advantage of the services listed below. We will continue to look for new ways to assist the UTM community during this time of transition. While things will be more complicated in the coming months, we are confident that UTM will make positive and even transformational changes as we start our new academic year—because of all of you. Thank you for the work you are doing. We are really looking forward to being together with you again soon.

Sincerely,

Amrita Daniere Vice Principal, Academic & Dean

Alexandra Gillespie
Incoming Vice President & Principal

Ian Orchard Acting Vice President & Principal

UofT Employee and Family Assistance Program:

http://benefits.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/efap/

COVID19 updates: http://www.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/news/update-on-employee-and-family-assistance-program-supports-and-service-changes/

UofT Family Care Office

https://familycare.utoronto.ca/about-us/contact-us/

UofT Health and Wellbeing Office:

http://well-being.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/

UTM Equity and Diversity Office: https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/equity-diversity/home Connections and Conversations: https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/equity-diversity/connections-conversations

UofT COVID19 Guidelines on flexible work arrangements:

http://www.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/news/flexible-work-arrangements-to-accommodate-caregiving-responsibilities-during-covid-19/

UofT Bulletin article on UofT's work on Fall safety:

https://www.utoronto.ca/news/six-ways-u-t-plans-keep-students-faculty-and-staff-safe-campus-fall?utm_source=U+of+T+News+-+Published+Today&utm_campaign=f823ff7631-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_01-

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