Touro Scholar

SOM Dean's Research Newsletter

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Dean's Update, June 2019

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Dear NYMC Community:

With the summer underway, I'd like to highlight some of New York Medical College's (NYMC) new initiatives and campus improvements unveiled over the course of the past few months and—ad a few still to come—in response to the feedback on the recent medical student surveys and my meetings with many of you. From opening a brand new Café featuring Starbucks products to unveiling enhanced workspace, IT improvements and new student research funding, we are committed to doing all we can to enhance your student experience and the quality of education at NYMC's School of Medicine.

Exciting highlights of our campus improvements include:

**New Café:** The renovated Café in the Basic Sciences Building, features Starbucks-brewed coffee and drinks including seasonal favorites, breakfast pastries, grab-and-go salads and sandwiches, candy, snacks, as well as toiletry, convenience items and NYMC merchandise.

**Summer Research Grants:** Funding for 91 medical student research projects at $1,000 per student was approved for 2019 summer research fellowships.

**BSB Hales Lobby Renovation:** New soft seating tables, chairs and booths to be installed by early July, will significantly increase seating capacity available in the freshly painted and carpeted BSB Hales Lobby (see rendering below).

**IT Enhancements:**

- Staffing has been increased to better support the needs of students in the School of Medicine
- Senior IT staff now regularly attend Student Senate and student IT committee meetings to ensure that students feel heard and the team can address student concerns in real time
- The IT helpdesk has changed its focus to be more student-centric and customer service oriented.
- G-Suite/Gmail for Education was made available to all students, providing unlimited storage for emails and files and added collaboration capability
• All students can now take advantage of the Touro/NYMC license for Office 365, giving them free access to the complete Microsoft suite of software
• Major network upgrades have been completed and have greatly improved both wireless and wired capability, increasing network capacity five-fold
  ○ Allows access to LMS and library resources
• New charging stations were installed in the cafeteria and the Café; Additional charging stations are planned with the renovation to the BSB Hales Lobby
• Two lockable, multi-drawer charging stations for phones, tablets, and laptops (coming in July).
• A new Mobile App for student access to administration programs (registration, payments, schedule, etc.) is currently being explored
• Efforts are underway to enhance the cellphone/wireless coverage in the Skyline building which houses the Asprinio Fitness Center
• Efforts are underway to improve student printing process

Grasslands 2 Upgrades:

• 32 upgraded kitchens--with an additional 32 kitchen upgrades planned in the new fiscal year
• Freshly painted hallways with updated flooring
• Newly replaced stairwell lighting to ensure safety
• Three sample apartments installed (late June), displaying finishes, fixtures and furniture will be available for students to view and provide feedback used for future upgrades
• All new ergonomic task chairs to replace old chairs (August)
• Apartment common area renovations are planned for the next fiscal year

Library Reading Room Improvements: Renovations are currently in progress to the rear upper level of the library to enhance student study space and includes new:

• Seating areas which will increase student study capacity by approximately 50 seats
• Standing desks and individual nook carrels
• Designated silent areas will be clearly identified

Improvements to MEC Mods: All seating in the Mods has been replaced with ergonomic task chairs.

Work Order Requests: A new cloud-based work order system (Hippo CMMS) is being introduced and housed in TouroOne, which will give students the ability to place and track work orders electronically, in an effort to decrease turnaround time and increase responsiveness to requests throughout campus, including in student housing.

Upgraded Cleaning Services: We have upgraded the cleaning services used for post-move out cleaning.

Thank you for your help in identifying these areas of improvements which will help improve the medical education experiences for you and all of those who will follow you.

Sincerely yours,
A Message from the SOM Dean

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BSB Hales Lobby Renovation Rendering

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