

March 18, 2020

Dear Clinical Students:

I hope this email finds everyone well. I am writing to follow up on a few items as there have been various communications as of late and I want to ensure no one has missed anything.

1. **Practicum:** at this point, no student should be “physically” at a practicum site/externship site. If sites have remote technology and you have been asked to conduct telehealth, please inform the incoming Assistant DCT, Dr. Connie Hoyos Nervi connie.hoyosnervi@rutgers.edu. You must let her know that you have been asked to conduct telehealth in your placement during this time. We need to be aware of it and approve it . Why? First, to ensure you are receiving adequate supervision and support while using this technology and second, for liability insurance reasons, we are tracking who continues to provide services via telehealth.
 - a. If anyone is still “physically” at an practicum/externship site, **please contact Dr. Connie Hoyos Nervi, connie.hoyosnervi@rutgers.edu immediately**. Please copy me on that email. Connie and I work together on all of the training issues and we are in constant contact.
2. Regarding **Oral Comprehensive Examinations** for 3rd year students and those who plan to apply for internship during the next academic year, these will be conducted remotely. Please contact your Oral Comps committee and discuss next steps. For example, who is setting up the WebEx/Microsoft Teams meeting? How will you access the videos required for the comps? Etc.
3. **CPS – Center for Psychological Services (aka The Clinic)** – as Dr. Andrea Quinn informed everyone this week, sessions have been moved to telephone sessions. News from the federal government yesterday has indicated that at this time telephone sessions are allowed under the circumstances. . <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/special-topics/emergency-preparedness/notification-enforcement-discretion-telehealth/index.html> Our IT team is working diligently to get the telehealth system up and running. As you can imagine, many things need to be put into place in order for this to run – which includes training, forms, getting supervisors up to date, etc. Therefore, be patient, we are moving as fast as we can while also taking our time to ensure we do not miss anything crucial in this transition. If you are having any issues with supervisors regarding telephone sessions, please contact Andrea, any clinic questions, continue to go to Dr. Andrea Quinn anquinn@gsapp.rutgers.edu.
4. **Dissertation Defenses:** Although this only applies to a handful of students, some of you may be at the point that you will be defending your dissertations prior to applying to internship, I would like to remind everyone that for dissertation defenses – we are allowing remote technology to be used, which should make things easier/more convenient during this time. Please get in touch with your dissertation committee set this up. Basically at this point, all of GSAPP is working remotely. The University is mandating the minimization of any in person attendance for students/faculty/staff. Thus, remote dissertation defenses are approved – you should move forward with this. If there is any issue with a committee, please let me know so that I can follow up with that committee.

I understand this is an anxiety-provoking time, filled with many uncertainties. As you can see from GSAPP communications, this is a day by day situation in which things change pretty regularly. I have spoken to many of you about your concerns and have problem-solved with some as well. Both Connie and I are happy to be a resource for all of you. We can set up webex/Microsoft team/zoom meetings if you would like to meet “in person” or we can speak over the phone or via email.

I wish everyone well and again, I will be in touch with updates as I receive them.

Sincerely,

Angelica

Angelica M. Diaz-Martinez, Psy.D.
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