

**From:** LCOM Office of the Dean <[COMOfficeOfTheDean@med.uvm.edu](mailto:COMOfficeOfTheDean@med.uvm.edu)>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 2, 2020 4:53 PM

**Subject:** ~Letter to the Class of 2020 from Dean Page and Senior Associate Dean Zehle~

Dear Class of 2020 Students,

We trust that you are all staying safe and well during the current COVID-19 pandemic—this is certainly not how any of us thought we would be spending your last months of medical school with us. We want to take a moment during these uncertain times to say congratulations again to all of you on your medical education accomplishments and to those pursuing a graduate medical training on your recent matches! We also appreciate your flexibility during this time when important celebrations with family, friends, and mentors are cancelled or modified. We have already received and welcome further suggestions on how we can make this time and transition more meaningful for you.

We also want to say thank you to those of you who have completed the GQ survey. We are very proud of our **92.6%** response rate and being one of 14 schools out of 145 that have over an 80% response. We appreciate your engagement and willingness to share your opinion about many aspects of your medical education. There are still nine students who need to complete the survey and although we do not know who you are, we encourage you to take the 30-40 minutes needed to complete the survey and help us achieve 100%. If you know of someone who still needs to complete the survey, please reach out to them and remind them of the importance of the survey and our interest in their opinion. With a “Stay Home, Stay Safe” order in place in many states, this is the perfect time to complete this important survey.

We miss you! As such, we would like to connect with all you on a more personal level to hear your questions, concerns and suggestions. Please join us for a special Class of 2020 virtual town hall on Thursday, April 9, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Finally, while specific options are being explored, we must assume that graduation cannot occur as originally planned. We are working to develop alternate strategies and will communicate with you about this soon.

With appreciation,

Richard L. Page, M.D.  
Dean

Christa H. Zehle, M.D.  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education