**The following is a message from Dean Page and Dean Zehle**

Dear first- and second-year medical students,

As we are sure you are aware, there has been a recent increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in Vermont. While the numbers are far below those in other parts of the nation, we also have seen increases within our college. Therefore, we have decided to begin remote learning on Monday, November 23, 2020 and continue remotely for the remainder of this semester, following the plans of the University. As you probably know, the University announced earlier this week that undergraduate students had the option to leave campus early and complete the semester remotely. We now offer the same option to you.

The Given Building and Dana Medical Library will remain open. Strict masking and physical distancing are required in the Larner College of Medicine complex and on our University of Vermont campus.

Students who decide to return to their permanent residence and travel out of state must do so in accordance with Vermont and other state requirements. If you do, you are encouraged to plan to get a COVID-19 test 48 hours before your travel to allow time to get your test results. For students staying in the area, weekly testing at the Davis Center is available (and required if entering campus). Continue to use the CoVerified app to schedule your tests.

Clinical medical education for third- and fourth-year students will continue. This is consistent with AAMC guidance and our commitment to preserving medical education and the pipeline of physicians, as we assure adequate supervision and available PPE to minimize risk.

Thank you for all you have done to preserve in-person, medical education activities to this point in time. We look forward to your return to in-person classes in the future. In the meantime, we are committed to continuing your medical education without interruption. We will send information specific to both classes very soon.

Stay well,

Richard L. Page, M.D.
Dean

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