



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

June 8, 2020

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLORS/PROVOSTS

Dear Colleagues:

In light of the ongoing developments with COVID-19 (coronavirus) and the University's coordinated efforts to protect student and employee health and safety, I'm writing to inform you that for the Fall 2020 term, the UC Washington Program (UCDC) will offer a remote program that will include both internships and UCDC courses; this will be an expansion of the remote internship program being piloted this summer. However, UCDC will remain closed to student residents for the Fall. In reaching my decision about continuing the remote-only program, I have consulted with Executive Director Helen Shapiro and her staff as well as Vice Provost Susan Carlson. UCDC's Governing Council and the Academic Advisory Committee have also been involved in the discussions that have led to the decision.

This decision to conduct a remote-only fall term will undoubtedly disappoint undergraduate students who were planning to live in DC this fall, but their health and safety is our priority. Without a student health facility, UCDC does not have a campus's capacity to test and contact trace on a regular basis, to safely accommodate students who may need to be isolated or quarantined or to ensure infected students receive the necessary medical care. Moreover, most DC internship sites will continue remote work, at least for nonessential staff, and many offices will be unable to accommodate social distancing requirements for their interns. There is also the issue of getting to work safely on public transportation.

Director Shapiro will be communicating directly with students about the remote program. UCDC already has a summer pilot program of remote internships, and is working with local employers to expand those opportunities. UCDC staff will try to provide as much of the UCDC experience virtually as possible, including alumni mentorships, professional development workshops, and speaker forums.

Support for the program long term remains strong and I look forward to resumption of the residential program as soon as possible. In the coming weeks, we will provide you with updates on the management of operations at UCDC. Please contact me, Executive Director Shapiro, or Vice Provost Carlson with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael".

Michael T. Brown, Ph.D.
Provost and
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

cc: Vice Provost Carlson
Executive Director Shapiro