

From: Geisel Students [REDACTED] on behalf of Geisel Dean's Office

Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 6:38 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Important Update from Dean Compton

To the Geisel community,

I write to you this evening to provide an update on the process related to academic integrity and the school's honor code. You are hearing from me now because it was important that I share this information first with the impacted students, which happened throughout the course of the day. As I have informed each one of them, upon further review and based on new information received from our learning management system provider, I have decided to dismiss all the honor code charges for students who received findings of responsibility and sanctions. The academic transcripts for the students involved will not include any reference to these proceedings.

I appreciate the concern expressed by many in the community for the welfare of the involved students and the complicated nature of these cases. This has been an incredibly difficult period for everyone, especially for the students, and I appreciate the support that many in our community have provided to them. I have apologized to the students for what they have been through and believe dismissal of the charges is the best path forward. The school is providing the students with a wide variety of resources to support them and maintain their academic and professional progress. We will do everything we can to safeguard their privacy.

As we look to the future, we must ensure fairness in our honor code review process, especially in an academic environment that includes more remote learning. In particular, we must ensure our processes live up to our high standards when it comes to maintaining academic honor and integrity. We will learn from this and we will do better.

Based on feedback from the student body, the school is initiating several programs to improve our processes, which include:

- Having the Medical Education Committee review a proposal for open-book exams in pre-clinical courses.
- Having the Geisel Assessment Oversight Committee review the policy on pre-clinical exam remediation for reinstatement.
- Moving to in-person Phase 1 exams, including in-person exams for all students during the next academic year.
- Creating 360-degree communication circles between the administration and students, which will ensure that when students provide input on school matters there is follow up from the administration indicating any action taken.
- Forming a commission on medical education administration to review and make recommendations for improving the support structures and processes for our students.

For all students, the Student Affairs and Dean's offices remain available to provide support and answer your questions. Likewise, counseling services at Dick's House and Geisel Counseling are available as confidential resources.

The measures outlined above and our commitment to improvement are the necessary first steps toward rebuilding the trust we recognize has been lost among some students during this process. As we make this important commitment, we do not want to lose sight of the academic, research, and clinical accomplishments of this past year, of which there were many of profound significance. We have a strong foundation on which to build, and we look forward to working with our students, our faculty, and the entire Geisel community to shape the future of our medical school.

Sincerely,

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