



Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

March 15, 2020

Dear Graduate Students,

With the rapidly unfolding global COVID-19 crisis, the University is taking proactive measures to slow the spread of this new virus. I write to share new guidance from Provost Scott Strobel for members of research laboratories. Please review his message and [FAQs for faculty and researchers](#).

While labs will remain open, work in the labs will be curtailed. All graduate students who can work remotely should do so per the University's guidance and in consultation with their advisors. I strongly encourage faculty to follow the Provost's advice to encourage students, as well as staff and post-docs, to work from home. Many faculty and departments have already made plans to limit on-site activities to critical research and encourage remote research activities whenever possible.

I ask that you work with your advisor to create work plans so that your time away from the lab is used productively. This is a chance to focus on data analysis, writing, reading and planning future experiments.

Please [check our website frequently for updates specific to graduate students](#). Your safety is my first concern, and the GSAS deans and I remain available to you during this period. Observe the recommendations for preserving your health, including frequent hand washing and social distancing during this time, and take care of each other.

Sincerely,

Lynn Cooley
Dean, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

C.N.H. Long Professor of Genetics

Professor of Cell Biology and of Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology

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