



Sunday, March 27, 2020 | 9:00PM

Dear ISO N Community,

Here is today's update on the Ingram School of Nursing (ISON)'s response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Students

### *Changing courses from grades to unsatisfactory or satisfactory - UPDATE*

Since receiving the ISON PRT - March 24th Update, several students have reached out to describe the extent to which they feel the S/U grading option is imperative due to work and childcare constraints, as well as general anxiety given this unprecedented climate. In light of this feedback from a number of students, the PRT is in the process of revisiting the previously stated guidelines surrounding the S/U grading options. Guidelines as to how requests for the S/U grading option will be considered within ISON, as well as a list of considerations students should reflect upon before requesting the S/U option, will be made available in the coming days.

For more information on the S/U grading option, please review the University adjusted academic measures resource page. Please note that the University's S/U request form is not yet accessible.

As usual, students who feel that they may need an extension on their assignments should contact their course coordinator.

### *Final Exams for winter 2020*

- The final exam schedule remains April 17th-30th. There will be no traditional in-person sit-down examinations for the Winter 2020 term.
- Final exams and assessments at the ISON:
  - o Students who will be doing a take-home-exam format: Students will have 72 hours to complete this exam format. The exam will begin at the original start time as listed in the Exam Timetable and students will be able to choose the time when they wish to complete it within the allotted time frame. Note that time-based accommodations for exams DO NOT APPLY if your class has been given 48 hours or more to complete the assessment.
  - o Students who will be doing another format [e.g. quiz, short-answer, MCQ ]: The amount of time/session for a student to complete the exam once they have started will be what is typically allowed, i.e. 3 hours. The exam period for that exam will begin at the original start time as listed in the Exam Timetable and will be open for a period of 72 hours. This will allow students the flexibility to determine when is the best time to do their exam. Students are encouraged to save their responses as they complete their exam should they experience issues with the stability of their internet provider. This will ensure that their responses are not lost.
  - o Concerning OSCE's : for courses that have OSCE type exams, final assessment modalities are still being discussed and more details will be available next week.
  - o Finally, there is a useful FAQ page for students

### *Student Aid for IT Needs*

COVID-19 has created an unexpected and unplanned need for remote access to participation in learning, from equipment to internet service. Students needing financial help due to COVID-19 should go to <https://www.mcgill.ca/studentaid/> and complete the application process. This is open to Bachelors, Masters, and PhD students.

### *Clinical placements*

New information from the Ministry of Health has been sent to our hospital partners with regards to clinical placements. The School is currently reviewing this information and is in discussions on how it may impact our students. Once more clarifying details are available, the PRT will be in a position to communicate updates.



## *Faculty of Medicine – Faculty Council meeting*

All students and faculty within the Faculty of Medicine are invited to join the Faculty Council remotely on Tuesday, March 31st from 4:00-5:30pm and will be held via Webex.

## *Pearson eBooks*

Currently Pearson Canada have all eTexts available for free via Vital Source, Textidium and Red Shelf. Information, instructions and the link for students can be found here. They are also offering free access to courseware for instructors so that they can make the full resources (eText included) available to their students.

## *Winter 2020 course delivery*

A reminder that all course content will continue to be delivered virtually and asynchronously until the end of the Winter 2020 term. Students are expected to ensure their availabilities through to April 30th so that all material and assessments can be completed.

## *Healthcare Worker Support Initiative*

A Healthcare Worker Support initiative has been implemented in light of the hard work by those at the frontlines of COVID-19. This initiative grants the opportunity for students in McGill University healthcare programs to volunteer and offer support in child care, pet care, and grocery, pharmacy, and general errands. For more information on how to show solidarity with the healthcare community, please consult the following form.

## *Volunteer opportunity with CODIM*

The Director of Nursing (Mme. Lucie Tremblay) for the CIUSSS Centre-Ouest de l'île de Montréal (CODIM) has requested volunteers from among ISoN students to participate in a COVID-19 Testing Drive-Thru Initiative. The CIUSSS CODIM has the mandate to put in place a drive-thru that would test 500 people per day for COVID 19. This drive-thru would be set up in the parking lot of Cavendish Mall beginning as early as March 25th and would be open from 08h00-20h00, seven days per week. It would be staffed by 6 clerical staff and 4 nurses using the following process:

1. Patients email their completed form to a unit agent, who gives them an appointment at the drive-thru for testing.
2. Once arrived at the drive-thru in their car, the patient would be “interviewed” by the clerical staff to validate their identity and coordinates.
3. Following this validation, the patient would see the nurse who would do the nasal swab. This nurse is wearing PPE. She places the specimen in a bag.
4. A second nurse (clean) would then accept this specimen into a clean bag (double bagging procedure) and is sent to the lab for testing.
5. Students would be assisting the nurse on the “clean” side. The support could include re-stocking, or other needs that do not include direct involvement with patients.

Any ISoN student interested in volunteering their time to this initiative should contact Nadia Susel: [nsusel@jgh.mcgill.ca](mailto:nsusel@jgh.mcgill.ca) to make their interest known and discuss their availability.

## **Faculty & Staff**

### *Winter 2020 course delivery*

A reminder that all course content will continue to be delivered virtually and asynchronously until the end of the Winter 2020 term.

### *IsoN School Council - CANCELLED*

The School Council that was scheduled for April 3rd is cancelled.



## *Faculty of Medicine – Faculty Council meeting*

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## **Healthcare Worker Support**

A Healthcare Worker Support initiative has been implemented in light of the hard work by those at the frontlines of COVID-19. This initiative grants the opportunity for students in McGill University healthcare programs to volunteer and offer support in child care, grocery and pharmacy errands, pet care, and general errands. ISON faculty members who may be interested in utilizing this resource - please feel free to contact [president.nus@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:president.nus@mail.mcgill.ca) for more details, or reach out to the student initiative coordinators [zoe.oneill@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:zoe.oneill@mail.mcgill.ca), [laura.pinkham@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:laura.pinkham@mail.mcgill.ca), and [annexuanlan.nguyen@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:annexuanlan.nguyen@mail.mcgill.ca).

## *Pearson eBooks*

Currently Pearson Canada have all eTexts available for free via Vital Source, Textidium and Red Shelf. Information, instructions and the link for students can be found here. They are also offering free access to courseware for instructors so that they can make the full resources (eText included) available to their students.

## *TechCom Drop-in Hours*

A reminder that the TechCom drop-in hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 14-16h. The Zoom link is: <https://mcgill.zoom.us/j/891822277>. For more resources, please visit the ISON TechCom Micro site.

## *ISON Faculty and Staff Social Zoom - 8-10pm (daily)*

A reminder that the ISON Faculty and Staff Social Zoom meeting takes place every evening from 8pm-10pm. Please join for an opportunity to connect and “hangout” with your colleagues remotely: <https://zoom.us/j/970525371> (Meeting ID: 970 525 371).

## *COVID-19 Q & A*

Today’s COVID-19 Q&A session began with updates from individual PRT members as well as considerations for the rest of the winter 2020 semester. Furthermore, resources for obtaining the latest credible information on COVID-19 were suggested, and a reminder was given that updates for the ISON community will continue to be released in our regular communications. Follow-up information relating to the finance and research-related questions discussed today will be sent to faculty and staff once available. Finally, during the meeting it was decided that we will continue with this format weekly on Fridays at 9 am, as such an Outlook invite will be sent with the Zoom coordinates. Note that our regular PRT Updates are posted on our webpage.

## *Tenure Track Positions*

Those faculty who will shortly be applying for reappointment or tenure consideration will be allowed to apply for a one-year extension.

## *Support Services*

Should any student need support, please consult any of the resources below.

- Tracom (24/7). Qualified crisis intervention workers are available to take your call if you have feelings of confusion, anxiety, distress, and suicidal ideas. Tel.: 514-483-3033
- Drug and alcohol help (24/7). Speak with a trained counsellor for support. Toll-free in Quebec: 1-800-265-2626. Tel: 514-527-2626



- Suicide Action Montreal (24/7). They offer support services, crisis workers, and monitor for people who are at risk of suicide. Toll-free in Quebec: (1-866-APPELLE) 1-866-277-3553. Tel.: 514-723-4000

During this very challenging time, The WELL Office will remain open, however working remotely until March 30. The ISON Wellness Consultants will be holding virtual counselling appointments which can be booked online: [www.mcgill.ca/thewelloffice/our-services/spot-scsd-ison/wellness-support/counselling-appointments](http://www.mcgill.ca/thewelloffice/our-services/spot-scsd-ison/wellness-support/counselling-appointments).

Should any staff or faculty need support, please consult the McGill website, the Health Canada website, and the Employee assistance program is available 24/7.

### Health is a Priority

The Quebec government asked that all individuals continue to practice social distancing, work remotely, and stay up-to-date with the measures taken to contain the spread. Regular updates from the Quebec government on COVID-19 can be found at: [www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/#c46904](http://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/#c46904)

If you are symptomatic, the number to call is 1-877-644-4545

Should you have any queries, all questions can be directed to: [directoradmin.nursing@mcgill.ca](mailto:directoradmin.nursing@mcgill.ca)

Dr. Anita Gagnon

*On behalf of the ISON Pandemic Response Team*