

MCO Program Updates Fall 2020

(July 21, 2020 Update)

Orientation

- Orientation will be completely virtual, beginning on August 21st and continuing between August 24 - 28.
- As in previous years, we will have several opportunities for faculty to give short research talks to the G1s. We will communicate with you regarding sign-ups for these shortly.
- Following each research talk session, we will offer breakout sessions for students to get to know the faculty and their research better in a small group setting.

Rotations

- Formal rotations will not begin until January/February (subject to change if we are in shutdown in the spring).
- During the fall term, we will be strongly encouraging students to engage in “**Pre-Rotations.**” These can be described as virtual lab visits, and could include joining lab/group meetings, connecting with lab members. Students will be reaching out to faculty beginning in the fall to do both pre-rotations and ask about spring rotations.

Classes & Nanocourses

- Since rotations will be delayed to the spring, students will be taking MCB 111, MCB 292 and MCB 293 in the fall. In the spring, students will take MCB 291, Journal Club, and the first of their 2 electives.
- Nanocourses generally take place in January. We aim to have these courses take place either in person or virtually.

PQEs/DAC Meetings

- PQEs and DAC meetings will continue to be conducted over Zoom until further notice.

Advising

- Like in previous years, G1 students will be matched with a faculty neutral advisor. We expect that during the current difficult times, these advisors will play an active role in meeting virtually with our G1s on a regular basis.
- Students will also be matched with a student peer mentor, who will also play an active role in meeting virtually with our G1s on a regular basis.

Admissions/Recruitment

- We anticipate that the admissions process and recruitment during the last week of January will take place in a modified manner. We continue to wait for guidance on this from the GSAS.

Social Events (including TGIF)

- While we currently cannot host in-person social events, including TGIF, we are brainstorming ways to keep our community engaged and connected virtually. One idea has been lab-hosted TGIFs – more information to follow.