

8/21/2020

## RE: FALL UPDATES

Dear BME Undergraduates,

I hope everyone is doing well as we enjoy the last week of summer before the fall semester starts! I would like to share some brief updates with you all.

### Undergraduates in the Labs

Regarding research and senior design activities, SoE has decided to maintain the policy of no undergraduate presence on campus. This will be revisited in September to consider the rest of the semester. Despite this, we have been working to ensure that while these programs continue remotely, they will be adjusted accordingly and our faculty are working hard to deliver outstanding learning experiences. In parallel, should the labs eventually open to undergraduates, we are developing guidelines for a safe working environment. We currently have graduate students who have slowly phased back into research, and so far are pleased with the adherence to rules.

### Advising

Since the days of just popping in a professor's office are temporarily suspended, we are going to be encouraging more regular student advising. All BME students are assigned an advisor in their sophomore year which is your advisor throughout your time in BME. Be on the lookout in the fall for emails from your advisors to check in.

**Incoming sophomores will be assigned their advisor shortly after the semester starts.** If you have questions about who your advisor is, or believe one has not been assigned to you, please contact me!

### Undergraduate Advisory Council

In order to improve communication and exchange of information and ideas, we will be creating a new undergraduate advisory council. If interested in participating, please send me an email with your resume, and a brief statement regarding your interest ([Kristen.labazzo@rutgers.edu](mailto:Kristen.labazzo@rutgers.edu)) .

### Undergraduate Townhall Meeting: September 10, 2020

The department will be hosting its first "Welcome Back" Townhall on Thursday, Sept 10 at 6 pm. These meetings will be used to relay critical information and to address any questions. Meeting details will be emailed prior to the event.

I hope you all have a great weekend and "see" you in a few weeks!

Regards,

