Touro

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CONNECTING YOU WITH THE TOURO COMMUNITY

Growth, Evolution, Expansion.

Adding a new central heating and cooling plant provides for Touro's campus expansion.

Research • Growth

New research lab is next step to Touro's expansion. **pg. 3**

Student Scholarships

How scholarships help out at school and at home. **pg. 4**

Virtual Volunteering

How our students have given back to the community safely. **pg. 5**

TO SERVE. TO LEAD. TO TEACH.

ISSUE 8 - WINTER 2020

Welcome from Shelley Berkley



As we continue to navigate through our world amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, Touro University Nevada remains resilient.

Thanks to the dedication of our hard-working faculty, our students continue to receive the best (and safest) education possible in our new normal. They say it takes a village to raise a child, and I can confidently say that the entire Touro community has worked better-than-ever together to ensure the success of our students.

This includes YOU.

Without you, our wonderful donors, this amazing institution would not be where it is today. Your contributions have made significant impacts in our students' lives as they prepare to go out into the world as the future of healthcare and education.

Thanks to your unbelievable generosity: student scholarships, training equipment, hands-on experience working on our mobile healthcare clinics, and so much more, our students are greatly prepared to deliver the best possible patient care after they graduate.

While our students continue to succeed on their Touro journeys, we do not plan on slowing down anytime soon. As you read this newest issue of Touro YOU, we are working tirelessly to finish several construction projects that will enhance our students' education.

One of those projects is a state-of-the-art research lab that will greatly benefit the Touro campus community as we work even harder to integrate additional research into our curriculum.

As medicine and education continue to evolve during COVID-19, allowing our students and faculty the opportunity to conduct ground-breaking research will set us up for an even brighter future. A new research lab will allow Touro University Nevada to be at the forefront of medical research in the state of Nevada.

We hope you will help us achieve this goal.

The world is filled with so much uncertainty at the moment, but what is not uncertain is our commitment to making Touro University Nevada one of the finest institutions of higher education in the country. We could not have gotten nearly this far without you, and I hope you will stay on this journey with us.

We need you now more than ever.

All my best,

Shelley Berkley
CEO and Senior Provost

Touro University Western Division

Julley Lerbly

Research + Growth

New Research Lab is Next Step to Touro's Rise as Medical Education Leaders in Nevada

Students and faculty across the Touro University Nevada spectrum are utilizing research to help change the world.

"Research can really keep the university on the cutting edge of advances as they are made, in addition to providing a creative outlet for faculty and students," said Dr. Cheryl Vanier, Chief Research Officer. "Bringing in research money helps fund a better research infrastructure."

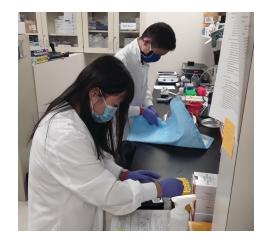
Members of the Touro community have published critical research that has made a lasting impact locally and abroad. Recent projects included looking at the impact of Nevada's opioid laws on prescribing rates and opioid deaths, investigating deaths at home during the COVID-19 stay-athome order, and comparing local mortality from COVID-19 to seasonal influenza, West Nile Virus research, and many more.

"This institution gains a stronger academic reputation through research activities, which means more interest from potential students, more interest from potential employees, and a sense of pride that cutting-edge work is being done to help humanity," Dr. Vanier said.

Despite Touro's research successes, Dr. Vanier said more help is needed to take the university's research program to the next level. Overcrowding in the current research space has led the university to plan a new research lab, a major component of the Touro capital campaign.

"The challenge we have is how to provide the right resources in the form of space, equipment, training, seed funding, infrastructure, administrative support, opportunities for collaboration, and any other service we can offer, to meet current and incoming faculty and students and enable the development and continuation of strong research programs," Dr. Vanier said.

With your help, Touro University Nevada can expand research facilities to help save lives.



Having a premier research program can help with student and faculty recruitment.



Students and faculty helped create 20,000 COVID-19 test kits for the Southern Nevada Health District. This is one way our research labs can make an immediate impact while we continue to research diseases and help save lives.



Student Scholarships

The Dana Bernstein Marshall Memorial Scholarship **Helps Make Life Easier for Medical Students During COVID-19**

When COVID-19 forced the United States into quarantine, Tanner Souza's wife was a few months away from having the couple's first child.

As an emergency room nurse, her OB/GYN recommended that she no longer expose herself to the virus by working in the ER while pregnant.

"She had to use all of her paid time off, and after her maternity leave was up, our finances were strained," Souza said.

Souza, a fourth-year student in the Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine, is a recipient of the Dana Bernstein Marshall Memorial Scholarship, which helps medical students who choose to pursue a career in gastroenterology.

"Receiving this scholarship meant less stress on my wife, because she didn't have to focus on picking up a shift or helping to make ends meet while also taking care of our daughter," he said. "This scholarship has helped us tremendously."

As someone who has benefited from someone else's kindness, Souza said he plans to pay it forward by giving to student scholarship funds after he finishes his residency.

"Being a scholarship recipient inspires you to do something kind for someone else, because you know how it feels to be on the receiving end of someone else's generosity," he said. "I am very grateful to the Dana Bernstein Marshall Memorial Scholarship for their kindness in providing me with this scholarship."



"Scholarships, especially during COVID-19, are so important to our success as students. With this scholarship, I have been able to purchase educational resources like workbooks and practice exam materials that have helped me with my studies and board exams. Having this financial assistance has made me feel much more comfortable as I progress through medical school. It feels incredible to know that the Marshall Family cares so deeply about our education and our success as future physicians. It's so nice to know how much they are invested in us."

Tahne Vongsavath College of Osteopathic Medicine, Class of 2022



Tiffany Javier NPHY volunteer organizer

Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth (NPHY)

The Student National Medical Association helped organize a virtual volunteering event where 20 students created "sunshine kits" (food kits with an inspirational note) and hygiene kits for the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth. Most of the supplies used for these kits were donated by local businesses. Student volunteers worked together virtually on Google Meet to create approximately 200 kits for the community.

Mobile Healthcare Clinic

Students from the School of Physician Assistant Studies have resumed providing free urgent care services as part of the university's mobile healthcare outreach initiative. Students have also given free flu shots to the Southern Nevada community in addition to providing free healthcare to the Las Vegas Valley's residents most in need.

Virtual Volunteering

During times of great uncertainty brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, Touro University Nevada's students have stepped up to provide much-needed assistance to some of the Las Vegas Valley's most vulnerable populations.

Whether they are writing cards to senior citizens or tutoring undergraduate students via Zoom, our students are finding creative ways to help give back to their community. Here are a few examples of how Touro's students are uplifting the Southern Nevada community during COVID-19.

MedSupplyDrive

Osteopathic medical students collaborated to get personal protective equipment (PPE) to healthcare providers in the Las Vegas Valley. Students have reached out to local businesses asking for PPE donations, assessing PPE needs at hospitals, clinics, and other places in need of PPE, in addition to making PPE deliveries.

Project Linus

The Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) completed a community service effort with Project Linus, a non-profit organization that provides blankets to both children and adults in need. The blankets are collected locally and distributed to hospitals, homeless shelters, and/or social service agencies. SOMA purchased material for 40 blankets and had 20 SOMA volunteers each tie two fleece blankets. Working with Project Linus gave Touro's student volunteers the opportunity to provide much-needed blankets for those without as the weather gets colder outside.



Nilsha Khurana Project Linus volunteer organize



Touro's PA students and faculty provided flu shots at different locations across the Las Vegas Valley.

4 | STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS



Thank You

Dr. Vivak Sayal Donates Breathing Machine to School of Physical Therapy

Thank you to Dr. Vivak Sayal and Las Vegas HEALS for donating a cutting-edge breathing machine for students in the Touro University Nevada School of Physical Therapy.

The breathing machine will greatly enhance the students' education. The machine allows healthcare professionals to measure a person's oxygen consumption and calculate their basal metabolic rate (BMR), in addition to showing the effectiveness of over-the-counter medications and their interactions with a person's BMR, blood flow and tolerance to heat and cold.

"I donated the breathing machine in hopes it will leave a long-lasting impact on the education and learning experience of Touro's students, the next generation of medical professionals," said Dr. Sayal. "I look forward to seeing how the addition to Touro's School of Physical Therapy will enhance students' clinical skills, creating a deeper understanding for those pursuing a degree in pulmonology."



If you would like to donate to Touro University Nevada, please contact Melody Crickman, Interim Vice President of Advancement at 702-777-4789

Touro University Nevada is launching our very first

CAMPAIGN

Since starting with 78 medical students in 2004, we now have more than 1,600 students. Our medical school has expanded to 180 students per class. The Physician Assistant school now has 80 students per class, up from 60. Occupational Therapy students are here for an additional year to complete a doctorate instead of a Master's.

Our students need more classrooms, study spaces, testing center, support service areas, new research lab, and much more.

Every dollar will go to build new and improved spaces for students.

Enclosed is an envelope for you to mail in your gift of support.

Or go to give.tun.touro.edu/Touro-Builds to donate online

Thank you for your generous support of the next generation of healthcare providers.

We need them more than ever before.



CALENDAR tun.touro.edu/about-us/calendar

Martin Luther

(Campus Closed)

King, Jr. Day

2/24

Touro Day at the Legislature

Touro Gala

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