Dear Faculty of Medicine community,

As we are now one month into the war, the hardships and tragedies are felt even more. The hostages are still in captivity, soldiers have been killed, and most recently, one of our medical students was murdered in a case of domestic abuse. Many of you might be thinking – how much more can we take?

I am taking this opportunity to tell you how much I admire your resilience and strength. Over 850 of our students are in the army reserves. Medical and health profession students who were not recruited are training and volunteering at the hospitals, even when their regular clerkships are on hold. The staff is working around the clock to ensure that new schedules are being made, meetings are being held, and students and staff’s needs are being met, both on and off campus. We have seen how members of our community have volunteered at every turn, whether in the hospitals, dental clinics, Abu Kabir, agricultural fields around the country, mental health aid, and much more.

I am also very proud of our accomplishments. After long and hard work by many people, 10s of our faculty members have been promoted in the last month. Manuscripts have been published, and grants have been awarded. I am full of appreciation for all the Faculty’s administrative staff, who, despite all the difficulties,
continue to support and accompany the Faculty's activities and make it possible to maintain a routine, as much as possible in these emergency days.

We will continue to move forward to help and support wherever we can. We will continue our care for patients and our outstanding research. We are working with our consulting teams to ensure that students and staff have emotional support if and when needed. We will be increasing our activities on battling domestic abuse.

All of these activities reflect our efforts to adapt to the challenges and to react sensibly to the needs of all, especially the most vulnerable among us. I want to take this opportunity to remind all of us that we are a community – one where we respect each other’s opinions, with freedom of speech with respect and a code of conduct.

We will continue working together, with a dialogue, to ensure that everyone in the Faculty of Medicine feels safe and well in our environment. I am confident that our strong and mutually supporting community can stand the challenges for as long as required.

Most of all, wishing you, your families, and friends to be safe and quiet, and peaceful days ahead.

All the best,
Karen
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