Cell Phone and Lap Top Computer Use in the Faculty

Cell Phone Use in the Classroom and Pre-clinical Labs
Use of cell phones or smart phones (e.g. making telephone calls, texting, or internet browsing) is prohibited in the classroom or pre-clinical labs for any reason. Cell/smart phones are to be turned off, or switched to ‘silent’ or ‘vibrate’ mode prior to entering the class or pre-clinical labs.

Cell Phone Use in the Clinic
The Faculty recognizes that an effective student-patient relationship requires the use of cell phones for timely communication about appointments and dental care. However, ringing cell phones and resultant loud conversations are disruptive and disrespectful in a patient care environment. The following principles for cell phone use will help minimize the disruption that results:
- Cell phones must be set on ‘silent’ or ‘vibrate’ mode at all times in the clinic.
- The process of patient care should not be disrupted to answer a cell phone call. Incoming calls should be allowed to go to voice mail and returned at a time when there is a break in patient care (i.e., do not de-glove to answer an incoming call).
- When calls are answered or returned, it should be done discretely off to the side or outside of the clinic. This will help avoid disrupting others in the clinic.

Lap Top Computer Use in the Faculty
The Faculty of Dentistry supports the use of technology to enhance learning, and encourages students to use their lap tops in an appropriate and respectful manner. This requires that students restrict the use of their laptop or other technology to those that are directly related to the class session. Examples of appropriate use include accessing online course resources, note taking, and on-task PubMed searches. Examples of disrespectful use include completing unrelated assignments, internet surfing, Facebook, and any other tasks that are not directly related to the class session. Under no circumstances should laptop use by one student become the focus of attention for other students in the class.