Good afternoon,

Here is an update on some items of interest:

Middle States Report. We submitted our Middle States report on February 27. In late March, three members from Middle States will be on campus to discuss the report. The report addressed questions regarding our processes in institutional assessment as well as assessing our general education program.

Legislative Testimony and Visits. March is a busy month. On March 1 and 2, along with several staff members, I testified before subcommittees of the Maryland House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee on our operating budget, part of a biannual process. On the next two Mondays, I'll testify before the capital budget subcommittees of these committees on our request for additional planning money for our Education and Health Sciences building. This past Monday I visited with staff from the offices of Sen. Cardin, Sen. Van Hollen, and Rep. Delaney on Capitol Hill. I discussed the importance of continuing federal aid to help students attend college and reviewed some of Frostburg State University's accomplishments.

University Advisory Council & Committee Work. The UAC has several ad hoc committees at work. The Parking committee, under the leadership of the SGA, is looking at some short-term and long-term solutions to concerns raised about parking on campus. A committee on establishing a campus chalking policy has been organized. While we have had an unofficial policy, nothing has been developed in writing. This committee is charged with proposing a written policy. Lastly, UAC established a committee to develop a policy for the display of art work, memorials, etc., on campus. All of these committees include faculty, staff, and students and their recommendations will be circulated to leadership groups on campus.

Tibetan Monks. The closing activities for the Tibetan monks will take place Thursday. If you haven't seen the Mandala in the library, please stop by. It is a unique experience. The closing ceremony tomorrow at noon is also a very moving experience where attendees will be given a small part of the Mandala.

Graduation Invites. I've discussed with faculty and student leadership the idea of asking graduates to nominate a faculty or staff member who made a difference to them at Frostburg State University. We will then send a special invitation to those individuals nominated to attend the May graduation ceremony with a note that they had been invited by a student(s). More info will be going out to graduates shortly.

I hope the semester continues to go well for everyone.

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