

April 12, 2019

Good morning,

Regional Recreational Center. As part of our facilities planning, we are considering the possibility of improving and expanding our recreational facilities on campus. We would be asking the state to fund these improvements. The first step in the process is to learn what the university community thinks about our current facilities and what we should be considering regarding recreation on campus. There will be a survey going out to everyone soon. *I ask that you take a few minutes to complete the survey.* The results will be important in developing any future plans. We will be sharing the results of the survey as the process moves forward.

Admitted Student Day. On Monday, April 15, we will have a number of prospective students and their parents on campus to experience a day at FSU. I encourage everyone to welcome these students and their families and share your experiences with the students to help them in their decision-making. The PAC parking lot will be designated for these families in the morning. Alternative parking will be available in the Stadium Lot, and we will run a shuttle for those parking in that area during the day.

Enrollments. Deposits from prospective students for next year are running ahead of last year. May 1 is an important date for these deposits. We will be working to ensure that students who deposit decide to join us in the fall. Events like the Admitted Student Day are important for many students who are still undecided.

Budget. The upcoming year's budget has been approved. I am pleased to let everyone know that includes a 3% COLA raise for most faculty and staff. (Watch for an email from HR with details.) Funding for the raise is being provided by the state and is not coming out of student tuition or fees. In addition, we received some additional funds to support some of our workforce development initiatives. More on that later as we get the budget details.

Physician Assistant (PA) program. I am very pleased to let everyone know that our [Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant Studies](#) program has received accreditation-provisional status from its accrediting agency, ARC-PA. We will be starting with a class of 25 students this summer in Hagerstown. Thanks to Beth Smolko, the PA program director, and the many individuals on campus and in Hagerstown who worked with our consultants, developed the necessary documentation and prepared facilities to make this a reality. Accreditation from ARC-PA is one of the more demanding processes in higher education.

Activities. As the semester gets into the final stretch for this academic year, there are plenty of student and faculty activities including art, music, dance, and theatre productions along with student presentations of their work this year. I encourage all to attend these events to support our faculty and students and recognize their accomplishments.

Weather. I hope everyone is enjoying spring. As the weather improves, I remind students living off campus or visiting with friends off campus to be cognizant of others in the neighborhood. I

hope our students will be respectful of others and please be aware of the new [social host ordinance](#) passed by the city.

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