Good afternoon,

Here's an update on a few items:

Enrollment: As we get closer to the May 1 date for student deposit decisions, we are still tracking ahead of last year but have slipped a bit from our goal of getting back to where we were in fall 2016. With an open house this weekend, we hope to convince a number of visiting families that FSU is the right choice for this coming fall.

Ricky Arnold Follow-up: We had an exciting event on April 9 that is still resonating in the region. Our alum astronaut, Ricky Arnold, sent me the attached photo that he took a few minutes after the broadcast last Monday. It is a view of the southern lights as the space station crossed the South Pole.

Meetings with Students: I've enjoyed the opportunity to meet with two groups of students recently in Cambridge and Edgewood Commons. We are following up on a number of items, including putting some outdoor furniture on the upper quad and the quad near Chesapeake for students to gather as the weather warms up (we hope!). We are also looking at improving the app for tracking the bus shuttle. My next session, open to all, is at 7 p.m. next Tuesday, April 24, in Frederick Hall.

Pullen Hall: Most of the offices moving into Pullen Hall have been completed. We are still working on finishing the construction in Pullen. I am pleased that we are locating more of our student services in one location to make it easier for students to access these services.

Leadership Program: Applications from faculty and staff for the next class of the FSU Employee Development and Leadership Series are due next Tuesday, April 24. Info can be found at https://www.frostburg.edu/hr/fsu-employee-development-leadership-series/. We've had an excellent conference today on leadership featuring a keynote speech by Bob Waltemeyer '83, who is currently the Director of the Office of Management, Veterans Benefits Administration. Please take advantage of these on-campus professional development opportunities, which is a strategic focus in our strategic plan.

Commencement: We are a just over a month away from spring commencement. As we approach the end of the academic year and begin many of our end-of-the-year celebrations, I encourage students to reach out for any services you need to make your semester and academic year a success.

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