

Feb. 9, 2018

Good afternoon,

Here's an update on several items:

Significant Date

Today is a significant date in our history. Do you know why? (The answer is at the end of this email.)

Enrollment

Thanks to all who are helping us recruit students for the coming year. I am pleased that we are running 10% higher than at this point last year in student deposits. We continue to see more transfer students than in previous years. To that end, I am pleased of the work of the faculty, the Provost, and the Deans to work with local community colleges to make it easier for students to transfer to FSU. Two examples are our Adventure Sports Management and Nursing programs. I hope we will continue to pursue additional opportunities.

Position Openings

The search for the next VP for Administration and Finance is progressing. A candidate will be returning to campus next week for some additional meetings. The committee for the VP for Regional Development and Engagement is conducting Skype interviews with a set of semi-finalists.

Strategic Planning

A list of action items to complete the strategic plan has been drafted and will be circulated for final input after we define yearly milestones. The action items focus on the 4 planning goals:

1. Focus learning on both the acquisition and application of knowledge.
2. Provide engaging experiences that challenge our students to excel.
3. Expand regional outreach and engagement.
4. Align university resources - human, fiscal, and physical - with strategic priorities.

MBA Concentrations

I am pleased that the College of Business has added two concentrations to its MBA program. The concentrations in Health Care Management and Business Analytics address two areas of workforce demand in the state and region. As you may recall from a previous email, the state legislature is very interested in funding initiatives that meet workforce needs in the state.

Answer to the Question

120 years ago today, a Senate bill was introduced to create the State Normal School #2 to be located in Frostburg. This was the first step that eventually led to the creation of our university.

Finally, a quick thanks to all those that helped with the removal of the ice on Wednesday and opened a number of facilities for students to access on the day we were closed. Thanks so much!