

June 28, 2018

Good Morning,

As we are nearing the end of the first third of our summer break, here are a few updates on campus.

**Facilities.** We are about ready to begin construction on the New Residence Hall. We will begin site preparation to the south of Chesapeake Dining Hall in the upcoming weeks. We are also planning to have a groundbreaking ceremony in mid-July to celebrate the construction. Completion is scheduled in time for fall 2020.

Design planning continues for the Education and Health Sciences building. The plan is to begin construction in 2020 on that building, which will be located between the PE Center and Lane Center. We are also working on an updated campus master plan. I hope to see us propose a plan to modify our older existing academic buildings and the library to create collaborative workspaces that are very popular in both CCIT and Compton.

**AHEC West Award.** I was pleased to accept the John M. Dennis award from the Maryland Area Health Education Center West (AHEC West) last week. The award recognizes our 40-year partnership with AHEC West to improve healthcare in Western MD. Thank you and congratulations to all our faculty, staff, and students who have made this award possible.

**Strategic Plan.** We are in the final stages of completing the 12 action items to go along with the 4 strategic planning goals. Members of the planning taskforce and other leaders will meet this Friday, June 29, to consider those items. While the vision and goals have been in place for a while, once we complete the action item information we will have a formal unveiling of the plan this fall.

**Enrollment Management.** Our total new student enrollments continue to be near last year's numbers. We continue to see more college transfers coming in while our number of high school graduates (First time in College) drops. Our attendance numbers at the four Preview sessions this summer have been strong.

The application deadline for the VP for Enrollment Management closes today and the search committee consisting of faculty, staff, and a student will begin reviewing those applications.

**Athletics.** We have submitted a letter of intent to leave our current conference, the CAC, effective June 30, 2019. This notification is in keeping with the Conference's bylaws. One of the members of our current conference, Penn State – Harrisburg, recently announced it is leaving the CAC in June 2019. That is the third of 10 conference schools to leave. It appears other schools are considering other conferences as well. It appears that any future configuration of the CAC will significantly increase student-athlete travel. Our recently completed feasibility study on our sports and athletics operations will help guide us in future decisions. We will

compete as a full member of the CAC for 20 sports and in the NJAC as an affiliate member in football for this upcoming year and will continue to offer all of these sports in the future.

**Title IX coordinator.** The search committee has completed its initial interviews with candidates for the Title IX coordinator position. We hope to have candidates visit campus in the upcoming weeks. Opportunities for the campus community to meet the candidates will be scheduled.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday, and we will keep you informed of activities and events this summer.