

Sept. 22, 2017

Good morning,

Here's an update on a few items:

Events on Campus. Now that we are into the full swing of the semester, please get involved. I saw many students, faculty and staff at the Block Party hosted by the city and university a couple of weeks ago. While the rain slowed things down early, the taco-eating and hot pepper-eating contests kept the crowd going later on. There are numerous sporting events featuring our students each week as well as art, dance, music, and theatre underway or coming up. You can check out the event schedule at <https://events.frostburg.edu/> Come out to support each other.

MONEY Magazine. MONEY magazine once again has ranked FSU as a "Best Value" College. The ranking is based on a number of factors, including the cost to attend FSU as well as the successful outcomes of our graduates. I'm pleased that we continue to be recognized for our efforts to provide a quality education that is affordable. As a member of the FSU community, please be proud of this accomplishment, and thanks to all for making it happen!

Enrollments and Marketing. We finalized the number of students attending FSU this fall. We had a decrease in overall enrollment to 5,396 students this year. While we have 54 fewer first-year students this fall, with 777 enrolled, we have maintained the academic quality of the incoming class. We also had one of the largest, if not the largest, graduating classes this past May, which impacted the fall enrollment figure. We are undertaking a number of new marketing initiatives, including more advertising on social media and additional advertising throughout the state and local region to highlight the best of what Frostburg State has to offer. You will be hearing more about our marketing efforts throughout the fall semester. We will also be activating a new online application form next week that allows prospective students to complete their applications and monitor the status of their application from any internet-based device.

Facilities. We are moving ahead with the design process for both the new residence hall and the new Education and Health Sciences building. You will also see renovations beginning in Annapolis Hall as the first downhill residence hall to get some needed improvements. Work in Pullen Hall continues to be on schedule as we create more space for student services. On Sept. 8, we dedicated the new Public Safety Building. I was pleased to have several of our local legislators and many of our local and regional first-responders on campus for the dedication. Congratulations to Chief Smith and our police officers on the official opening of their new home.

Studies. I hope classes are going well. As we near the end of the first month, remember that there are resources to ensure student success. Talking with faculty instructors or your advisor is the best first step. We also have PASS and the tutoring center available to help.

Enjoy the warm weather as we move into fall here in Western Maryland.

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