Good afternoon,

The university's positive test numbers increased last week to nearly 1 percent. Our university community must **remain vigilant. THE VIRUS IS IN OUR COMMUNITY.** Abide by <u>our social compact</u> and, again, importantly:

- If you are on campus, test twice a week, every week. (More info at this link.)
- Wear your mask properly and wash your hands frequently.
- Avoid parties, crowds and any unmasked gatherings with people outside your household. The increase we've seen on campus has been traced in part to student-to-student interactions not following health guidelines.
- Monitor your symptoms and use the **Check-in Portal** daily.
- Vaccinations are an important part of overcoming the pandemic. More than 1,000 students and employees have received a first, second or single dose of a vaccine. If you have received a COVID-19 vaccination 1st dose, 2nd dose or single shot through any provider, please log into FSU Check-in Portal, look for "My Vaccinations" in the menu at the top right, and record your information. And watch your email or visit https://www.frostburg.edu/vaccination for vaccination opportunities and information.

Congratulations to the **College of Business which recently received a five-year extension of accreditation** for its business degree programs by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Less than five percent of the world's business schools have earned this distinctive accreditation by AACSB International. You can read more about it here. Congratulations to Dean Singh and the entire college on this significant achievement.

Staff and faculty paychecks this week will restore half of the reductions in salaries imposed last semester. The next paycheck will include the governor's \$1,000 bonus and then the following check will include the other half of the salary reductions. We spread this out to reduce the tax implications on any one paycheck.

We have submitted a **Voluntary Separation Plan** to the Board of Regents for their approval. Information can be found in the agenda for Friday's USM Board of Regents Meeting at https://www.usmd.edu/regents/agendas/ (April 16 agenda). A more detailed message to the university community will come out Friday afternoon if the Regents approve the proposal.

Reminders:

- **Grad Walk and Virtual Grad Week:** Graduating students should watch their email for updates and information about Grad Walk on May 7 and Virtual Grad Week on May 10-14.
- **Virtual Coffees:** Students and employees, check your email this week for invites to our Virtual Coffees next week. You can review previous virtual coffees here.

Stay safe and be well,

Ronald Nowaczyk, PhD
President
Frostburg State University
101 Braddock Road
Frostburg, MD 21532-2303
(v) 301.687.4111; (f) 301.687.7070
You may also seek assistance by contacting:
Donnell H. VanSkiver, CAP, MEP, OM
Executive Administrative Assistant
Email: dhvanskiver@frostburg.edu



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