

April 21, 2021

Good afternoon,

I want to remind the campus community of tonight's candlelight vigil and reflection on yesterday's trial verdicts at 7:30 p.m. at the Brownsville/Park Avenue Monument in the upper quad. All are invited to gather following COVID safety guidelines and share their personal responses.

The university's positive test numbers remained at nearly 1 percent this week. Our university community must **remain vigilant. THE VIRUS IS IN OUR COMMUNITY.** Abide by our social compact and follow all health and safety guidelines. Remember: test twice a week, mask up properly, wash your hands frequently, and **avoid parties, crowds and any unmasked gatherings with people outside your household.** Be sure to monitor your symptoms and use the [Check-in Portal](#) daily.

Vaccinations are an important part of overcoming the pandemic. More than 1,200 students and employees have received a first, second or single dose of a vaccine. *If you have the opportunity to get vaccinated, take it.* If you need a vaccination, UPMC Frostburg Urgent Care is offering Moderna vaccinations this Sunday and students who need a ride to an appointment can request one. Details are at <https://www.frostburg.edu/vaccinations> or in recent emails. The University System is developing a system-wide plan for all Maryland state universities regarding vaccinations this fall.

I want to recognize and thank **FSU Police Officer Cpl. Patrick Livingston** for his heroic, live-saving efforts earlier this spring to a member of the public in Frostburg, for which he was recognized at last Friday's University Advisory Council (UAC) meeting. His actions are representative of our officers and make me extremely proud of all they do to protect and serve our community.

UAC heard a report from the University Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion that presented a **10-point draft plan on DEI.** That draft report will be sent to all three governance units, Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and SGA to advise with regard to the 40+ recommended actions. The report as well as the results of their Campus Climate Survey will be posted on our website for the campus community.

Chancellor Jay Perman has rescheduled his earlier visit to FSU (as part of his tour of USM campuses) to this coming Monday, April 26. **Chancellor Perman will be touring campus Monday morning** and meeting with leadership from the Faculty and Staff senates, the Cabinet and SGA leadership. He will also visit our Innovation Park as well as UMCES Appalachian Lab. Please feel free to offer a Bobcat "hello" if you see him on campus.

I want to thank our Governor, Maryland legislators and especially our local state legislators, Sen. Edwards, Del. Beitzel, Del. Buckel and Del. McKay, for their **support for FSU during this recent legislative session.** We received \$3 million to support the creation of our Regional Science Education Center. We also received an additional \$800,000 in ongoing support —

\$600,000 to support faculty in our Nursing and Physician Assistant programs and \$200,000 for regional development.

Reminders:

- The **Undergraduate Research Symposium** is this Friday, April 23, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring the work of more than 80 students. [Check in on the virtual sessions here.](#)
- The Board of Regents approved two **Voluntary Separation Plans** (one for faculty, one for staff) to eligible employees last Friday. Information about the plans was sent to employees earlier this week.
- The last **virtual coffee** of the semester for employees is tomorrow. Check your email for the link. The final virtual coffee of the semester for students was on Monday. You can [watch previous virtual coffees here.](#)

Stay safe and be well,

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