

June 15, 2020

Good morning,

I know this has been a difficult few months for many of you as students simultaneously navigating the COVID-19 pandemic and continuing with your studies. I want to thank all of you for your efforts and patience during this challenge unlike any we have ever faced. But know that we are also employing solutions that have not been considered before.

While circumstances will continue to change, we need to start moving forward with our plans for fall 2020.

Please take a few minutes to watch the video below for an introduction to some key decisions in our plans for the fall semester.



(Click on image or click [here](#).)

Key decisions we are using to build our Fall 2020 plan:

- The semester will begin Monday, Aug. 17, two weeks earlier than planned, and will end two days before Thanksgiving; students will not return to campus until the spring semester. Classes will be held on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 7. A [revised academic calendar](#) has been posted on the website.
- Pending a vote from the University System of Maryland Board of Regents, it is expected that tuition, fees and meal plan prices will remain at the 2019-2020 levels.
- As noted in previous messages, all on-campus residence halls will be single rooms only, and access to common areas will be restricted. Students moving into residence halls will do so by appointment to reduce the number of people in hallways and elevators. Room rates have been adjusted in the majority of residence halls to help students who live on campus. CARES Act funding will additionally help alleviate some of that cost for eligible students.
- A number of changes will be made to classes with the intent of reducing the risk of spreading the virus while still providing an enriching educational experience. Classes will be offered through a mix of in-person, online and blended formats. The number of

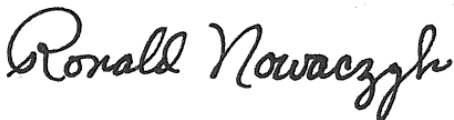
students in each class will be adjusted, and classrooms will be reconfigured to provide distancing and other safeguards. Details are being worked out through Academic Affairs and Facilities and will be shared in the coming weeks.

- Cleaning and sanitizing of all buildings and the availability of hand sanitizers will be increased. Face coverings will be expected to be worn when other people are present.

The Moving Forward: Fall 2020 plan will be updated throughout the summer. Updates and related information can be found at www.frostburg.edu/Fall2020. We will provide mid-week email updates through the summer.

I recognize these decisions will not create an ideal situation. Far from it. The coronavirus and its related effects have forced many difficult changes in our lives, and some people are feeling the impact much more significantly than others. Frostburg State University remains an institution of higher education, and we are committed to moving forward with that mission.

On **Wednesday, June 17, at 5:30 p.m.**, I will hold a virtual town hall on Teams to address some questions you may have. This is open to students and their families, as well as other interested people. (There will be a faculty/staff town hall that morning.) Please send your questions to president@frostburg.edu before **noon on Tuesday, June 16**. Access the session [here](#). On Wednesday morning, I will send an email outlining the questions I and members of my cabinet will address, but there will also be an opportunity during the town hall to submit questions to moderators.



Ronald Nowaczyk, PhD
President

Frostburg State University
101 Braddock Road
Frostburg, MD 21532-2303

Voice: 301.687.4111

Fax: 301.687.7070



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