

July 1, 2020

Good afternoon,

Here is the weekly update as we continue to move forward toward the fall 2020 semester.

- **Pandemic Response Levels:** As we began to see the possibility of COVID-19 becoming a pandemic, we have relied upon our Pandemic Response Team to provide guidance, a role that continues as we move forward into the fall semester. At this point, we are being guided by the Pandemic Recovery Plan. We are currently at Pandemic Recovery Level 2, described below:

**Level 2:** Telework continues, but staff incrementally return to work to complete essential functions with reduced footprint authorized by supervisors; preparations for reopening continue; faculty return when contract commences; students return to campus with limitations on size of gatherings and reduced density in residence halls; as semester begins, classes may meet face-to-face with some blended modalities and reduced capacity; social distancing, indoor face mask donning in the presence of others, hand washing, respiratory etiquette, and employee health monitoring are required.

A description of the Pandemic Recovery Levels can be found at [this link](#). Additional information about the Pandemic Recovery Plan will be shared in coming weeks.

- **City Police Residency:** I have become aware of some misinformation about the temporary residency of the Frostburg City Police in the former police building on campus. This is a short-term solution for the police, only while the city of Frostburg renovates the police station on Broadway. The city reports that renovations are close to on target, and they expect that the police will have been returned to their Broadway home by the beginning of the spring 2021 semester. Plans are progressing, slowed only a few months by COVID-19, to turn the building, the former Lincoln School, into a multicultural center.
- **Homecoming Update:** As you may have already seen in announcements from the Office of Alumni Relations, the difficult decision was made to cancel in-person events for this fall's Homecoming because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the issues involved in holding large-scale activities. However, the Office of Alumni Relations and Office of Student and Community Involvement are in the process of planning a series of virtual events to engage students and alumni for that weekend, Oct. 15-18. You can view the announcement video [at this link](#).
- **COVID-related Requests:** Emails have been sent this week regarding various adjustments that are possible as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - For students, faculty and staff seeking adjustments to classes or work that are outside of the boundaries of the Americans with Disabilities Act and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (ADA/504), an online portal has been set up for those requests. The portal and more information can be found at [this link](#).

Standard ADA/504 requests are still being processed. Find information for those here: <https://www.frostburg.edu/compliance> or email Ben Brauer at [btbrauer@frostburg.edu](mailto:btbrauer@frostburg.edu).

- Instructional faculty received an email from Interim Provost Michael Mathias on Monday afternoon with instructions for requesting a temporary adjustment to their fall 2020 teaching assignments for reasons related to COVID-19, with a form to be submitted to the department chair by **Monday, July 13**. More information can be found at [this link](#).
- Employees with questions about Emergency Paid Sick Leave or Expanded Paid Family & Medical Leave can review information at [this link](#). For additional information, contact Lee Ann Nightingale at [LNightingale@frostburg.edu](mailto:LNightingale@frostburg.edu).
- As stated in my email from June 9 (found at [this link](#)), employees are still encouraged to telework where possible, but some employees are returning to campus incrementally as we prepare for the fall semester. The guidance remains the same: Employees needing to be on campus should work with their supervisors on those plans. Screening through the methods mentioned in the letter, face coverings when others are present and social distancing are still the expectation.

Some other reminders:

- The [www.frostburg.edu/fall2020](http://www.frostburg.edu/fall2020) website is being updated with new FAQs as decisions and procedures are solidified. Please check back regularly if your questions were not answered before.
- I remind students who have specific concerns regarding the fall semester to email us at [fall2020@frostburg.edu](mailto:fall2020@frostburg.edu). You will be assigned a contact person who will ensure your questions are being addressed by the right department.

I encourage everyone to do your part to stem the spread of this virus. Beyond your personal risk, following the guidelines of wearing masks, hand washing, social distancing and avoiding large gatherings protects our larger community, our vulnerable populations, our local economy and our plans for the future. We can all do our part.

We will continue these updates each week. Stay safe and well.

Ronald Nowaczyk, PhD  
President

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

Voice: 301.687.4111

Fax: 301.687.7070



*One University. A World of Experiences.*