

June 3, 2021

Good afternoon,

Please allow me to update you on a few items:

Vaccination policy and exemptions. As we continue to prepare for the USM mandate for COVID-19 vaccinations in the fall semester, we are working on the process for uploading proof of vaccination and medical and religious exemption requests. Watch your email and our website for information detailing the process later this month. We are not asking anyone to submit any documentation regarding their vaccines right now, but recommend you keep that information (e.g., vaccination card, etc.) so you can provide it when the process is ready. Note that some student-athletes (who return to campus early for the fall semester) will begin receiving specific information about their proof of vaccination process later this week. Remember, information about vaccination opportunities is available at www.frostburg.edu/vaccinations.

Ad hoc Budget Advisory Committee. I met with SGA, Staff Senate and Faculty Senate leadership last week. In response to requests from the Staff Senate and Faculty Senate, I am convening an ad hoc budget advisory committee later this month with representation from all three governance units and other staff to advise us as we develop university-wide and division-level budget priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. It is my intention to continue this committee through the fall as we begin developing the 2023 fiscal year budget.

Bobcat Welcome Sessions. We have had three Bobcat Welcome Sessions for incoming first-year students and one for transfer students in recent weeks. We have several on-campus sessions planned for June as well as we continue the process of registering new students. The comments have been uniformly positive from students and families about this new process. Thanks to all who have been participating and helping us welcome this fall semester's incoming class.

Fall Commencement Ceremony. We will begin working on identifying a possible date for an in-person commencement this fall for students and families who missed participating in a formal ceremony in May 2020 and 2021 and December 2020 because of COVID restrictions. We will poll those graduates and include the possibility of attending the December 2021 ceremony as an alternative.

Changes on campus. Even though we do not fully know yet what will be expected of us as a campus community this fall, we are planning on operating with fewer restrictions than was the case this past academic year. You will notice a relaxing of the social distancing expectations on campus this summer, including in directional signage and limits on seating and occupancy. We continue to monitor the region's health indicators. I ask that everyone enjoy their summer, and please be patient as the campus response and recovery team recommends options. I hope we continue to see a continued progress against the virus so that we can continue our return to a more normal state of affairs.

I hope everyone continues to be safe,

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



One University. A World of Experiences.