

Sept. 8, 2021

Good afternoon,

Here's a quick update on campus:

CARES act funding. The last of the three federal assistance bills (American Rescue Plan) awarded FSU over \$5 million to help students. We will be distributing those funds to students in need this fall and next spring. Details on the distribution are being finalized. Once we have the plan in place, we will share it campus-wide. All the funds from the first two bills have been distributed over the past 18 months.

Campus improvements. In addition to the construction of the new Education and Health Sciences building (which is still on schedule for an opening next summer), we are expanding student collaborative study space. **Guild 214** is now open for students to use (see photo). You will also notice that there are extensive renovations ongoing on the **main floor of the Ort Library**. New carpeting was installed recently, and several collaborative study rooms are being built along the east wall. We have ordered new furniture as well to create a “study-learning center” feel on the main floor of the library. We will be renovating rooms in some of the older academic buildings, as well as residence halls, to outfit additional collaborative workspaces for students.



Forging Futures – The Campaign for Frostburg State University. Universities are often engaged in special fundraising campaigns to reconnect with friends and alumni and help the institution on major projects. FSU is launching the public phase of our campaign, *Forging Futures*, next Wednesday at noon with a virtual celebration. The campaign is timed to coincide with the 125th anniversary of Frostburg State's founding in 1898. You can follow the noon launch event and get more information about the campaign at www.frostburg.edu/forgingfutures.

December Commencement. Thanks to Ms. Brittni Kaetzel for polling those graduates who were unable to attend a formal commencement ceremony because of COVID-19. Based on the results of the poll, we are scheduling a second commencement ceremony in December for the May 2020, December 2020 and Spring 2021 graduates. This ceremony (Saturday, Dec. 18) will recognize and celebrate these graduates and their families. The [commencement website](#) will continue to be updated as the plan develops.

Convocation. The fall 2021 convocation for new students is scheduled for this Friday at 10 a.m. in the Bobcat Arena. This will be a special event as we welcome our newest Bobcats to campus.

9/11 Remembrance. With the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks this weekend, FSU will be remembering those who we lost. Thank you to our Student Veterans of America chapter and the Veteran's Services office for leading this effort.

- Our initial flag display in the shape of the Pentagon and World Trade Center towers will be constructed on Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 4 p.m. on the lawn near the Clock Tower (volunteers are welcome and appreciated).
- The commemorative event will be held on **Friday, August 10**, beginning at **4 p.m.** near the **Clock Tower quad (Delaney Plaza)**. The event will begin with opening remarks, to be followed by a rollcall reading of the 2,977 Americans who lost their lives at the World Trade Centers, Pentagon and the Flight 93 crash in Shanksville, Pa. If you would like to volunteer for the rollcall reading of names, please contact **Clarissa Lang, interim director of the Veterans Center** at 301-687-4409 during the day or by email at calang@frostburg.edu. Names will be read between 4 and 6 p.m.

Please continue to be safe.

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