

Sept. 30, 2020

Good afternoon,

It is a sad day at Frostburg as many in our community are mourning the loss of our student Promise Aguoru. To our students, if you need to speak to someone, please consider contacting Counseling and Psychological Services at 301-687-4234 (after hours, call 301-687-4223 to be put in touch with a crisis counselor). Be aware that efforts have begun to plan a celebration of Promise's life on campus that also takes his family's needs and wishes into consideration. We will share more as plans come together.

I want to provide a number of updates as well:

Issues and Concerns: Please continue to pass on your concerns to us. I encourage you to email me at president@frostburg.edu or, for specific academic issues, Dr. Mathias at provost@frostburg.edu. And email COVIDtesting@frostburg.edu for questions about COVID testing and Fall2020@frostburg.edu for general questions about the fall semester.

Virtual Coffees: We are continuing our "virtual coffee" online forums every two weeks, and we have received valuable feedback during these sessions. The next one for students will be Tuesday, Oct. 6, from 4-5 p.m. at [this link](#). And watch for the email sharing the link for the next faculty/staff session, which will be Thursday, Oct. 8, from 9:30- 10:30 a.m.

Universal Testing: I want to thank the many people who assisted in planning and executing the universal testing on campus last week. It was another massive effort that went off with very few hitches. In particular I want to commend our ECHOSTARS students as well as a number of student-athletes who served their campus community by giving time to help with check-in and guiding people through the process. I was very proud of all of you.

Mask Protocol in Chesapeake/Appalachian Station: It is essential when visiting Appalachian Station and Chesapeake Dining Hall that you wear a mask at all times (except when you are seated at your table eating your meal). These are the guidelines for Maryland food establishments. You will be asked to leave if you do not comply with the mask requirement. Following this protocol protects you and everyone else.

Online Resources/Virtual Backgrounds: We understand how challenging the online learning and working environment can be. A [student resources web page](#) and an [employee resources web page](#) are available with some frequently needed links and information. And if you are tired of the seeing the wall behind you in your virtual sessions, visit our [virtual meeting backgrounds page](#) for some different views and opportunities to show your FSU spirit at the same time.

Annual Leave Days Carryover: I encourage regular nonexempt and exempt employees to review the email sent on Monday morning from Lisa Hersch, chief HR officer, which details the

temporary exception expanding the limit of annual leave days that can be carried over into the next year, as granted by the Board of Regents. Please contact HR if you have questions.

We have reached the seventh week of this unusual and difficult semester, almost the halfway point. I am proud of how our students, faculty and staff are responding and caring for one another. I encourage you to continue to be kind and stay safe.

Ronald Nowaczyk, PhD
President

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You may also seek assistance by contacting:

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Executive Administrative Assistant

Email: dhvanskiver@frostburg.edu



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