

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT 101 BRADDOCK ROAD FROSTBURG, MD 21532-2303 PHONE: 301.687.4111

FAX: 301.687.7070

Dear members of the May 2020 graduating class,

In a spring semester unlike any other, we had to make the difficult decision to postpone our commencement ceremony. As promised, we are sharing the results of the commencement survey from earlier this spring and our decisions based on your opinions.

- The majority of you, 75 percent, wanted commencement rescheduled at a future date when it is safe once again to hold large gatherings. And that is what we will do. We don't know when that will be, but we plan for the ceremony to be held on a weekend, and we will provide you with at least a month's notice when it is scheduled. Your FSU email will remain activated through that time, so please continue to check it for messages. We will also announce the ceremony in FSU social media and on the website.
- For those who cannot make it to that rescheduled ceremony, but who still wish to walk in commencement, you may join in any of the subsequent commencements through spring of 2022.
  Your position in the May 2020 graduating class will be announced at that ceremony. You only need to notify us at <a href="mailto:commencement@frostburg.edu">commencement@frostburg.edu</a>, preferably a month before the ceremony you have chosen.
- Degrees will be granted and diplomas will be mailed on our usual schedule. They should arrive in mid-June after grades are completed and verified. If you ordered your caps and gowns, we are also sending them to you in May with no shipping charge. You may still order them through the University Store online.
- While our May ceremony has been postponed, and there was very little interest in a virtual ceremony, we didn't want your original commencement day to go by unacknowledged. So, beginning on Monday, May 18, the week of the original ceremony, FSU will celebrate a virtual "Grad Week," allowing you to celebrate your achievement on social media and receive congratulations from family, friends and faculty who have supported you in your journey. You will be receiving a package from FSU with some tokens to mark the occasion. I encourage you to join in on social media (we will be posting all week) using the hashtag #FrostburgGrad2020. For example, you could take a photo of yourself in your cap and gown and post it on social media.

Even though I am unable to say this to you in person, I am very proud of the Frostburg State University Class of 2020. I know you have worked very hard for this achievement, and you have prevailed under difficult conditions. I remember that my first summer here in 2016 was the same for many of our 2020 graduates. In many ways, we started together! Your class will always have a special place in my memory.

Sincerely,

Ronald Nowaczyk, PhD

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President