Good morning, Bobcats!

Homecoming and Family Weekend 2025 is officially upon us! This weekend is one of FSU's most cherished traditions and is a time to celebrate our shared pride, reconnect with classmates and welcome alumni and friends back to campus.

This weekend is also a time to showcase our beautiful campus to our Bobcat families. For them, it is a chance to experience college life alongside their student and meet other families who are also part of our vibrant community. Please make them feel welcome.

This year we have a fantastic lineup of events planned. The excitement kicks off on Thursday with a Spirit Day you won't want to miss! I'm encouraging everyone to wear our school colors loud and proud October 2 to show your true Bobcat pride. Whether you're sporting a team jersey, hat or just red and black, let's fill campus with contagious energy and good old-fashioned school spirit!

Some of the weekend's highlights include:

- Retired Employee & Employee Service Awards Luncheon
- Frostburg Homecoming Parade
- Golden Anniversary Reunion
- Bobcat Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
- CLC Book Award
- U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" Brass and Woodwind Quintets
- Jim Anderson Memorial Baseball Brunch
- Football Game vs. Concord University
- Field Hockey Game vs. Mansfield
- Women's Soccer Game vs. University of Charleston
- Women's Rugby Match vs. Mount Saint Mary's University
- Men's Soccer Game vs. University of Charleston

One special event I'd like to mention is the Ort Library's Inaugural FSU History Talk on October 2 beginning at 2:30 p.m. featuring the presidency of Dr. Catherine R. Gira. As you may recall, Dr. Gira was one my dear mentors who I had the honor of knowing early in my career. I witnessed first-hand Catherine's love for Frostburg and her unrelenting commitment to the students, faculty, staff and this region. If you have time, I encourage you to stop by the library to hear about her leadership and legacy.

As you can see, we have a weekend full of opportunities to show your school spirit by cheering on our teams, honoring outstanding alumni and joining the prideful community that we call Bobcat Nation.

Be sure to visit our website for the full <u>schedule of events</u>. Let's make this Homecoming and Family Weekend unforgettable. We look forward to celebrating with you soon. Go Bobcats!

With FSU pride,

Darlene Brannigan Smith, PhD Interim President