

Good morning,

This past weekend, Bowie State University, one of our system's sister institutions, suffered a tragic shooting incident on campus. Along with our tragic shooting last spring and incidents at Salisbury University and Morgan State University, this event points to the unfortunate world we live in today. I have reached out to leaders of these other schools to express our sorrow and solidarity with them in providing a safe learning environment for our students.

As Chief Smith shared in her campus email last week, it is important to realize that our environment can present challenges to one's safety – and to be aware and use good judgment to reduce the likelihood of harm. I want to reinforce that message by encouraging you to be aware of your surroundings and avoid gatherings where there are large groups of people who may be unknown to you and/or illegal activities are occurring, including underage drinking and drug use. If you ever feel there is a possibility of danger, please know you can anonymously make a report to campus police. While we live in Western Maryland, our environment is not immune to the violence we have seen in other localities.

---

Good morning,

Thank you to all who made our Homecoming weekend a success. I thank all who participated in the clean-up of Frostburg on Sunday. In addition, I witnessed several meetings and discussions between alums and students on Friday and Saturday, where alums were reaching out to offer ongoing career advice to our students. That networking is an important part of Homecoming weekend. Many alums praised the campus appearance and changes that have been made. More importantly, they spoke proudly and positively about our students.

I am thankful that we had a very successful Homecoming weekend and hope that our campus will continue to move forward as a safe and welcoming community. Thank you, Bobcats.