

Good Afternoon,

As we are quickly approaching the beginning of the fall semester and the 23-24 academic year, here are a few updates.

From all indications, we are going to see a significant increase in our first-year class. We held another Bobcat Bound Day on August 5 for over 70 new students and their families. The enthusiasm among parents and family members for the afternoon session was at the same high level we saw in our early Bobcat Bound Days back in April.

While Brownsville Hall remains closed for repairs, we have a waiting list for rooms in our other residence halls. Students this year had the choice of selecting single or double rooms.

Faculty and staff have moved into the Education and Health Sciences Center (EHSC). The bridge from the Cordts PE center to the new building is complete, and we are nearing completion of the bridge to the Lane Center. There is a list of construction “punch list” items currently being addressed by the contractor. Progress continues on the new roof of the Pealer Performing Arts Center, and we are ordering furniture for the Adams/Wyche Multicultural Center.

We held our annual planning session attended by the AIEC, University Advisory Council and academic deans. We reviewed institutional effectiveness reports and discussed the budgeting process, as well as the upcoming strategic plan wrap-up and next steps. My report, as part of the State of the University scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, September 7, will focus on the strategic plan.

Our Ed.D. program was selected as one of the top three graduate programs by The Daily Record. We will compete against Loyola University of MD and Morgan State University for the top program to be announced in October.

Convocation for our incoming students will be held on Thursday, August 24, at 5 p.m. (faculty are asked to be in the ARMAH in regalia by 4:45 p.m.). Our guest speaker is Ms. Marjorie Gray ('07/M'08) of Google. A cookout for students and the campus community will follow at 6 p.m.