

Good morning. Here are a few updates.

End of MD Session. The Maryland Legislature ended its session this past Monday. While we do not have specific information yet on pay raises as they apply to faculty and staff, we did get a one-time appropriation of \$500,000 to support our IT infrastructure. This request came about after discussions late last year with the faculty and staff senates. We'll develop and share the plan for how the funds will be distributed.

Thoughts of a Colored Man. FSU Alum, Keenan Scott II, will be directing his play, "Thoughts of a Colored Man," on campus this week and next. The play had its origins while Keenan was a student here and most recently was produced on Broadway. This is a very unique opportunity for the campus and local community to see a recent Broadway theatre production. I want to thank Keenan, the Theatre faculty, donors and friends of FSU for making this happen.

Music Concerts and Recitals. As always in April and May, our Department of Music will offer a series of concerts and faculty and student recitals in the upcoming weeks. This [link](#) takes you to the calendar for these events.

Athletics. Acrobatics and Tumbling will be the highlight this weekend as FSU hosts its first MEC Championship event here. Our A&T team was first in the conference and has the honor of hosting the championships as the #1 Seed. We also have baseball, softball, and men's and women's lacrosse games here this weekend, as well as the spring football scrimmage. There's plenty to watch this weekend.

Second Bobcat Bound Day. We'll welcome another large group of incoming Bobcats and their families on Saturday for our 2nd Bobcat Bound Day. We've tweaked the agenda a bit based on feedback from the first session. We look forward to another day of smiling faces as our incoming students get their IDs and fall schedules and families have a chance to get answers to questions they have. Thanks again to the faculty and staff volunteering their time to make this day successful.

Top 100 Women in Maryland. Dr. Traki L. Taylor, FSU's provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, was recently recognized for being among The Daily Record's 2023 Top 100 Women in Maryland. Congratulations! Dr. Taylor and the other 99 honorees were chosen for this recognition by past Top 100 Women and business leaders for their professional accomplishments, community involvement and leadership. In her short time at FSU, Taylor has been successful in leading the University's academic programs to address regional and national challenges higher education institutions continue to face. This year's Top 100 Women will be honored at an awards celebration in May at The Lyric in Baltimore. For a complete list of the 2023 winners, visit www.thedailyrecord.com/top-100-women.

Please continue to be safe, enjoy the unusually warm weather, and work hard as we get to the final weeks of the spring semester.

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