

Here is an update on a few items:

Homecoming. Thanks to all that made last weekend such a success. Alums enjoyed the opportunity to be back on campus for a full slate of events. The weekend festivities began with a lunch for retired employees and concluded on Sunday with alumni sporting events as well as an FSU alumni Board meeting. There were several exciting sporting events including the double OT win, our first-ever against Notre Dame College.

Ricky Arnold Exhibit. If you have not seen it yet, please visit the Roper Gallery and check out the photos taken from the International Space Station by alum, Ricky Arnold. Ricky and his wife, Eloise, were at the opening reception last weekend. Thanks to Professor Ash Lester and the staff and faculty from Visual Arts for making the exhibit possible.

Enrollment. We are hard at work recruiting students for this upcoming spring semester. We have over 100 applicants for the spring semester. The list of students has been circulated to the department chairs who are contacting prospective students. Student ambassadors from the Admissions Office have also been calling these students. We are also working on next fall's incoming class with a focus on getting responses to those students sooner than we have in the past. We have also contracted with Financial Aid Services (FAS) to bring a consultant to campus with over 30 years of financial aid experience to help us with our financial aid awarding processes.

ARC & Governor Hogan. Governor Hogan, as co-chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission, will be hosting its annual conference at Rocky Gap next week. The ARC will be holding a news conference and luncheon on campus next Monday at noon. In addition to Governor Hogan, we will have at least two other governors in attendance as well as Chancellor Perman. FSU received Maryland's first-ever ARC POWER grant last year. We are very pleased that Governor Hogan and ARC included FSU in this upcoming conference.

Master's in Environmental Management. Thanks to all that worked on our first-ever joint program with UMCES. President Goodwin and I have signed the MOU for the collaborative program which was an important step in getting the program off the ground. This program takes advantage of our long-standing relationship with UMCES and fits with our commitment to sustainability and addressing climate change. The unique feature is that the program is open to students with a wide variety of interests and expertise.

Ronald Nowaczyk, PhD
President
Frostburg State University
101 Braddock Road
Frostburg, MD 21532-2303
(v) 301.687.4111 ; (f) 301.687.7070

You may also seek assistance by contacting:
Mrs. Donnell H. VanSkiver, CAP, MEP, OM
Executive Administrative Assistant
Email: dhvanskiver@frostburg.edu



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