

Feb. 16, 2022

Good afternoon,

Here are a few updates for this week.

**Celebrating Black History Month.** As part of Black History Month, FSU is highlighting several of our Black alumni(ae) and their accomplishments on social media. Check them out on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). And, congratulations to our team of Aaron Mickens, Trekia Perkins and Reggie Morton, who represented FSU in the First Annual Dr. Charles R. Drew Knowledge Bowl. The FSU team tied for second, one point behind the winner, Hampton University. Our students showcased their knowledge of Black history. Congrats again!

**Scholarship applications due.** Students should apply for FSU Foundation scholarships now. The deadline for consideration is Tuesday, March 1. The application and related information are at [this link](#). As part of that process, I encourage all students to be sure they have [completed the FAFSA](#). If you or your family needs assistance with the FAFSA, please visit the Financial Aid website at [www.frostburg.edu/admissions-and-cost/financial-aid/](http://www.frostburg.edu/admissions-and-cost/financial-aid/) or reach out to our Financial Aid Office at 301-687-4301 or [FSUFinAid@frostburg.edu](mailto:FSUFinAid@frostburg.edu).

**Forging Futures Campaign.** Speaking of the FSU Foundation, in the five months since the Campaign was officially launched, the FSU Foundation has raised over \$2 million to support our three priorities of the Campaign – Students, the University and the Region. With a total raised in the silent and public phases of more than \$17.5 million, we continue to make excellent progress toward our goal of \$25 million.

**In-Person Coffees.** An email went out to staff and faculty earlier this week listing several dates for in-person chats with me. Those dates are

- 2/18: 9:00 a.m.
- 2/23: 10:00 a.m.
- 2/28: 3:00 p.m.
- 3/1: 9:00 a.m. or 3:00 p.m.

You can reserve a spot by emailing Ms. Donnell VanSkiver ([dhvanskiver@frostburg.edu](mailto:dhvanskiver@frostburg.edu)).

**COVID Questions.** Faculty Senate Chair John Lombardi forwarded some questions he has received about our COVID response. I've provided answers to those questions below. In addition, I have encouraged Dr. Lombardi to schedule a virtual meeting hosted by the Faculty Senate but open to the campus community to ask additional questions. I'll be glad to be there along with members of the Response and Recovery Team. Here are responses to the questions forwarded by Dr. Lombardi:

*Do you know what FSU's quarantine guidelines are?*

*Our protocols can be found at: <https://www.frostburg.edu/COVID19/guidance-if-diagnosed-with-a-positive-covid-result.php>*

*How are COVID safety protocols decided and modified?*

*Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have been following CDC guidelines as well as local health guidelines and guidance from USM. The [guidelines](#) continue to evolve with most recent updates this month.*

What did the president mean when he said he hoped to announce changes to COVID protocols in the coming days and weeks?

*The national conversation on responding to the pandemic is ongoing and we are seeing states, regions, and municipalities making changes to their response to the pandemic. [USM has put out a statement as well](#). The campus Response and Recovery team continues to evaluate the conditions on campus as well as in the region. My comments reflect the view that at some point we will be moving from a pandemic mode to what is referred to as an endemic mode. Some in higher education have taken the view that our institutions will be moving to a position away from being a quasi-health care provider to one where individuals assume more personal responsibility for their health and those of others. Our statistics on campus and those in this region are not to the point yet where the Response and Recovery team recommends changes to our protocols.*

Be well, and stay safe,

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:

Donnell H. VanSkiver, CAP, MEP, OM  
Executive Administrative Assistant

Email: [dhvanskiver@frostburg.edu](mailto:dhvanskiver@frostburg.edu)



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