

Good afternoon,

My biweekly update has very some good news.

FSU as a Best Value University. SmartAsset, an online resource for making smart financial decisions, released its [list of the best value universities for 2022](#). FSU was ranked #1 in Maryland for institutions with less than 10,000 students. We were fifth overall behind UMD College Park, Johns Hopkins, UMBC and Towson. The ranking takes into consideration cost, financial aid, likelihood of graduating and the starting salary of graduates. Our average starting salary was listed at \$53,600. You can read more about the ranking [on our website](#).

NCAA – Division II. We were notified this morning that FSU has been accepted as a Division II member of the NCAA. We have successfully completed the 3-year transitional process. Our student-athletes will be able to compete for national NCAA championships beginning this fall. Congrats to the athletic department staff, coaches, faculty and staff who helped in the transition, as well as our student-athletes. You can view the NCAA call [here](#).

Multidisciplinary Studies Major. We recently received formal approval from MHEC to offer the Multidisciplinary Studies major as an online program. Thank you to Dr. Steele, Dr. Bittinger and all that worked on getting the program approved. The Board of Regents were very complimentary of our efforts to reach out to Maryland residents seeking a college degree that don't have the ability to be here physically in Frostburg.

Pirates Ahoy. The Children's Literature Center offered its Pirates Ahoy day in conjunction with 22 local businesses last week. We had the largest group of children and parents ever for the program and a perfect day for the little pirates (and I hope future bobcats) to spend the day with our students, staff and faculty.

FSU Foundation. The FSU Foundation just completed its best ever year for fundraising. The year's giving was \$3,771,330 and we are at \$18.49 million toward our goal of \$25 million as part of our campaign, Forging Futures: The Campaign for Frostburg State University. A total of 4,311 donors contributed to FSU this past fiscal year. Thank you to all who financially support FSU through our foundation.

Oct 24 FSU-FSU Football Game. Once again FSU will be featured in a regional football telecast on Thursday evening, October 24. The game against Fairmont State University will be telecast live on both MASN and AT&T SportsNet. This will be the third year FSU will be home for the telecast which helps us reach our alumni(ae) and friends as well as current and future students and their families. Please continue to stay healthy and enjoy the remaining weeks of summer. Go Bobcats!

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