

MSU Faculty and Staff:

As we near the end of the Fall Semester we wanted to provide you with a few quick updates:

- Fall Semester Budget: Our budget for this fall was stable and much as we predicted. Revenue met our expectations overall, and expenses have been a little under what we budgeted. All-in-all we have had a stable semester.
- Commencement: I would like to thank the Registrar's Office, several of the Alumni & Development staff, Provost Office staff, Facilities, and others who work to make this a successful event. Thanks for all who attended in support of our students.
- Search for a Vice President for Fiscal Services: Over the course of the past month or two we have had a Screening Committee of faculty and staff engaged in a search for a person to take the helm of all our fiscal and business units. This will likely come with a little reorganization of our financial and business units under one umbrella of leadership. This is particularly important as we continue to respond to many of our external financial challenges. The Screening Committee has narrowed the field of candidates down and we are doing some reference checking.
- Search for a Provost and VP of Academic Affairs: With the upcoming retirement of Dr. Bob Albert we have had a group of faculty and staff engaged in a screening process of applicants to fill this role. At this point in time the committee is engaging in telephone interviews with applicants to narrow down the pool. Based on how the committee timeline looks, candidates for this position should come to campus in late January.
- January Convocation: Spring Convocation is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8 and will start with breakfast at 8 a.m. in the ballroom of ADUC, on the 3rd floor. Our program will be light and begin around 8:30 a.m. and end no later than 9:30 a.m. This shortened timeline should allow everyone to get back to their areas and have the remainder of the day to prepare for the spring semester and student arrival.
- Upcoming Holiday Closure: Our last working day this fall semester will be December 19 and we will plan a normal closure to our campus for the Holidays. Please make sure you have closed all doors, windows, and other areas, unplugged as many electrical items as possible, and generally secured your areas. We will reopen on January 2 at our normal time. For those of you teaching Winter Term courses, please work with your Deans and the Provost Office on any issues that you come across.

We hope that you have a good break. Spend some time with family and friends and get some much deserved rest. We appreciate what each of you do.

Jay Morgan
President