

December 8, 2020

## **MSU Faculty and Staff:**

The following are a few announcements/reminders as we approach our winter break starting December 18:

- Dates:
  - December 18 @ 4:30 p.m.– University closes for the holidays  
Please make sure all windows/doors are closed, appropriate electrical items unplugged, trash removed, etc.
  - January 4 – University reopens
  - January 5 @ 3:00 p.m. – Spring Convocation (Virtual)
  - January 19 – Spring semester classes begin
  - Spring Calendar: <https://www.moreheadstate.edu/MSU/media/Academic-Affairs/Registrar/Spring-2021-Academic-Calendar.pdf>
- Draft of Kentucky's Vaccination Plan: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/covid19/DraftKentuckyVaccinationPlan.pdf>
- Staffing Update:

We have a number of people retiring before December 31 and we are sorry under the Covid-19 conditions we cannot provide them with a reception. However, if you get a chance, please thank them for their years of service: Joe Hunsucker, Harold Nally, Dana Baldrige, Brenda Porter, Greg Gilliam, and Tim Smith. We wish each of them and their families well.

Dr. Caroline Atkins will be serving as Interim Director of HR from now until June, 2021 while we conduct a national search.
- Paid Days Off:

As a reminder, all employees have two (2) extra paid days off between November 30 and January 8. Supervisors may work with employees to determine the specific days. These extra days are being added to the calendar this year to say 'Thank You' for the work everyone has done during Covid-19, and to allow extra time for employees to rest, care for dependents, and take care of other personal items.
- KERS Retirement System:

As you may be aware, the state of Kentucky has offered legislation to allow state universities and other quasi-governmental organizations/agencies the option to separate from the KERS retirement system and move all employees to an alternative retirement plan. Over the past year we have analyzed the options presented and reviewed the costs associated with this possible separation, and we have concluded that is better for MSU at this point in time to remain a participating member of KERS. The pension issue in Kentucky will likely

continue for another couple of years as the state tries to find a way to mend the plans.

- Travel During the Break:

If you are traveling substantially during the break to see family or friends, please consider isolating a few days and obtaining a Covid-19 test before returning to campus the week of January 4.

- Next University Communication: December 30 or 31 (or as needed if before then).

As we enter the holidays, please consider supporting some of the businesses/restaurants in our regional community. We wish each of you a Happy Holiday and hope you have a safe and enjoyable New Year.

Jay Morgan  
President