

January 5, 2022

MSU Faculty and Staff:

Happy New Year 2022! We hope that you had a very restful break and were able to spend some time with family and friends.

Our goal this Spring is to provide our students with as normal a semester as we can. As we open up, the following are a couple of announcements and guidance to assist us.

Early Spring Semester Dates:

January 12 - Spring Convocation will be held Wednesday, January 12 at 9 am in virtual format. A link to join will be provided in your mymoreheadstate portal the day before the event.

It was our hope that we could have assembled for Convocation in-person, but to lean on a precautionary side we will host this Spring virtually. Placing 400-500 people in ADUC just did not feel prudent, and we want to stay focused and keep our energy on our classes being in-person this Spring.

January 13 – Residence Halls Reopen

January 17 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance – University Closed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service/Observance -
Email humanresources@moreheadstate.edu for more information about service opportunities (1:00), MLK program (3:00) and Candle Light Walk (3:30)

January 18 – First Day of Spring Semester Classes
ADUC Opens for Regular Hours of Operation

January 22 – MSU Open House (Button and ADUC)

February 19 – MSU Open House

Campus Dining:

The Rock will open up on January 13 and the ADUC food court on January 18.

Planning Calendars:

A complete Spring 2022 and Summer 2022 calendar may be found at:

<https://www.moreheadstate.edu/MSU/media/Academic-Affairs/Registrar/Spring-2022-Academic-Calendar.pdf>

<https://www.moreheadstate.edu/MSU/media/Academic-Affairs/Registrar/Maymester-and-Summer-2022.pdf>

As you and your unit plan ahead, the 2022-2023 Academic Year Calendar may be found at: <https://www.moreheadstate.edu/academic-affairs/registrar/academic-calendars>

2022 SOAR Dates:

Thursday, April 21 – Eagle Scholars & Honors Program

Friday, April 22 – New Students

Saturday, April 23 – New Students

May 16 – 20 – *Virtual* – New & Transfer Students

Tuesday, May 24 – Transfer

Wednesday, May 25 – New Students

Thursday, May 26 – New Students

Wednesday, June 9 – New Students

Friday, June 10 – New Students

Saturday, June 11 – New Students

June 20-24 – *Virtual* – New & Transfer Students

Tuesday, July 12 – Transfer Students

Wednesday, July 13 – New Students

Thursday, July 14 – New Students

July 25-29 – *Virtual* – New & Transfer Students

Thank You:

We would like to thank upwards of 80 staff and faculty who assembled right before the break in ADUC and spent a couple of hours handwriting over 5,000 personalized cards to be sent to prospective Fall 2022 incoming students. Thank you to each of you for helping put a personal touch on our recruiting efforts. We must continue to push hard on recruitment for incoming students.

Spring Semester General Covid Guidance:

Our Covid precaution from Fall 2021 of wearing masks indoors will continue into Spring 2022.

- We have relayed to students that if they are eating in ADUC or the Rock dining facility, masks are required.
- Individuals using the Recreation & Wellness Center may remove their masks while working out at individual stations.
- We will begin reporting employee and student Covid case numbers after the semester begins. This semester we will be reporting cases on our website on the Monday following the prior five-day week - so reports will be in one-week windows.
- Vice Presidents have been charged with determining the status of any large spring events in their areas based on the circumstances of each one. We would like to see academic, artistic/creative, athletic, and affiliated student group events continue, but

if they are large, please speak to your Vice President on any potential issues or extra precautions that should be taken.

- In order to continue minimalizing the amount of traffic in and out of office suites, employees are asked to continue to remove their individual trash and place it into hallway, restroom, or outside trash bins. Please also assist us in helping to keep suites clean. This will allow our Building Service staff to limit going in and out of individual suites, and thus concentrate on the higher traffic public areas of our campus.
- If you need specific building cleaning assistance, please contact Facilities Management.

Covid Testing and New CDC Quarantine Guidance:

- If you feel sick, please consult with your supervisor and take precautions of obtaining a Covid test at St. Claire Health Care. Also, most pharmacies have a home test kit.
- As in the past, if you determine you have Covid please speak with your supervisor and Vice President so that we can take appropriate precautions and work with you.
- The CDC has updated its Covid quarantine guidance. We ask that all employees please review the new guidance found on the following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1227-isolation-quarantine-guidance.html>

Covid Vaccination and Voluntary Reporting:

As we begin 2022 and a Spring semester, we will be relaying a new process for employees to report, on a voluntary basis, their vaccination cards. The link that we used in the Fall semester has been discontinued, and more information will be provided at Convocation. The reasoning behind this is that many individuals originally uploaded cards with one vaccine dosage, and now have multiple doses and a booster shot. As we move through the Spring, we will be conducting a booster shot campaign for employees to be drawn for financial incentives. Again, more information on this at Convocation.

- Full-time employees are provided 4 hours of paid leave to receive a Covid vaccine or booster vaccine. All employees and students are recommended to discuss the vaccine and booster with their medical provider.

Inclement Weather Procedures:

As we approach the wintry months, the following link is a reminder of our procedures/schedule for inclement weather days. It is important to note that there are multiple considerations related to inclement weather alterations, including class schedules, residence hall issues, dining, event cancellations, regional classes, snow/ice clearing issues on our facilities, working with utility companies, and others. We will continue to make every attempt possible to notify our University community of any schedule alterations as early in the morning as possible, or the evening before, if there is sufficient information available.

Should we need to plan around consecutive days of inclement weather in a row, instructors are asked to be ready for a possible Plan B and to begin hosting instruction online or hybrid so that we do not lose valuable instructional time. Now that we are in an environment where virtual instruction can be supported, this becomes easier and more universities are doing so during inclement weather days. Likewise, staff would assist remotely by taking phone calls,

monitoring emails, continuing to process items, as possible, etc. We understand that during some inclement weather there are times when virtual could not be supported, but there are also other times when it can be. More information will be provided on this at Convocation.

With approaching wintry weather, here are some reminders on how to stay informed:

- Sign up for Eagle Alerts by text message at www.moreheadstate.edu/eaglealerts.
- Download the Live Safe app for Apple or Android, www.moreheadstate.edu/livesafe.
- Follow MSU on social media:
 - Facebook: [@MoreheadStateUniversity](https://www.facebook.com/MoreheadStateUniversity)
 - Instagram: [@moreheadstate](https://www.instagram.com/moreheadstate)
 - Twitter: [@moreheadstate](https://twitter.com/moreheadstate)
- Check the MSU website at www.moreheadstate.edu and listen to WMKY 90.3FM (www.wmky.org).
- Visit www.moreheadstate.edu/weather for plans and procedures.
- Visit www.moreheadstate.edu/healthyatmsu.

Many thanks for your resilience and energy as we push through this pandemic and all of the strain that comes with it. Unfortunately, we may have to learn to live with Covid a little longer.

Despite the strain, our campus has done very well to date, and by everyone working together we have seemingly dodged many of the problems seen on other campuses.

Our goal is to push forward and provide students with a quality classroom and student life experience on campus this semester.

Jay Morgan
President