

MSU Faculty and Staff:

The beginning of the Fall semester is almost here! As we prepare to welcome students to campus soon, here are some events and information for your planning purposes.

Back-to-School Events

Wednesday, August 9

- Convocation for MSU Faculty & Staff: 8 a.m. breakfast, program at 8:30 a.m.; ADUC

Thursday, August 10

- New Student Move-In: 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Residence Halls
- MSU Recreation and Wellness Center open for regular hours

Friday, August 11

- New Student Move-In: 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Residence Halls
- Returning Student Move-In: 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Residence Halls

Saturday, August 12

- Starbucks Opens 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sunday, August 13

- Returning Student Move-In: 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Residence Halls
- 36th Annual Ice Cream Social: 7-8:30 p.m., ADUC
- Starbucks Open: 4-9 p.m.

Monday, August 14

- All Classes Begin
- ADUC Food Court Opens: 7:45 a.m.-7 p.m. (M-F), ADUC
- eSports Lounge Opening: 11 a.m., ADUC
- Starbucks Open: 7 a.m.

Wednesday, August 16

- Eagle Fest: 6-8 p.m., ADUC and Fields Hall Lawn

Wednesday, August 23

- Good Ole Family Reunion: 4-6 p.m., ADUC Commons

Thursday, August 31

- MSU Football Home Opener: MSU vs. West Virginia State, 6 p.m., Jayne Stadium

Fall Convocation Details

Convocation is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 9**. The doors will open in the ADUC ballrooms at 8 a.m., breakfast will be provided with a short program at 8.30, and we should be adjourned shortly after 9 a.m. We hope that you can join us.

Employee Parking

Employees may register online and order their parking permits.

[Go to Parking Portal](#)

You may also go by the Parking Office at 100 Laughlin Building.

Cyberattack Update

We continue to repair and restore our network and associated items after the recent cyberattack. We are having to repair, clean, and bring back up area-by-area parts of campus in a methodical way and according to function. As we continue to do this, it will continue to cause some backlog in some areas. Our focus has been on the critical business services areas to begin the semester.

Employee Workstation Computers

Our IT staff are making their way around campus evaluating, cleaning, and restoring individual workstations on a priority listing around function. This will take some time for all computers on campus to be cleaned - potentially upwards of two more weeks.

In the meantime, if you are able to upload files from your computer to a cloud source, that would be great. We are suggesting that you utilize a Microsoft cloud storage such as OneDrive, Teams, or SharePoint for all University data. This will assist in safeguarding any data on your computer, and Microsoft also has screeners on their upload functions to catch viruses as well.

Data Breach

As a part of our repair and restoration efforts, we recently discovered that some data may possibly have been compromised. At the moment, we are continuing to assess it, search for what workstation it may have come from, and try to identify how much. At this point, we do not believe any of it was MSU employee personal data. Should we at any time in the future determine any employee personal data was extracted, we will contact those employees directly to let them know.

As a result, we are suggesting the following as access becomes more available:

- Starting this week, IT will begin scheduling times to come to unit offices on campus to assist employees with password changes. They will likely schedule a specific time and hour and help all that are needed in the unit during that time. Beginning the week of August 7, IT will then begin to focus on assisting faculty units with password changes.
- Please also change your passwords for third-party external accounts that you may utilize, such as compliance accounts, agency accounts, etc., should these apply to you.
- As added protection, we also recommend that you consider changing logins and passwords to your non-MSU personal accounts when you have time.
- Please continue to use two-factor authentication for on-campus login, and consider this for your off-campus personal accounts, if you are not already doing so.
- Be cautious of clicking on unknown links within emails or on the internet.
- Watch for unusual account activity.

For extra precaution and longer term, we are working with an off-campus firm to begin offering free identity theft protection services for all employees and students. Information on this will be sent to your home mailing address, as well as electronically, when available. This will add an additional layer of protection for our campus.

Payroll Runs

Resulting from the cyberattack, we did experience a delay in being able to process summer supplemental PARs, and specifically a delay in Summer II instructor PARs. Over the next week, our offices will be reconciling these and scheduling a special payroll run to try to push through the backlog of PARs. If the system access allows, the special run is tentatively planned on or before August 15.

Also, during this timeframe, we have remitted contributions to the various retirement systems on the employee's behalf. Each of the systems have confirmed their receipt, and they are beginning to post them on employee accounts. If you are anticipating these retirement contributions and they are not in your account by August 15, please let the Human Resources & Payroll Office know.

Thanks for your patience as our staff work through this.

Fall Semester Academic Computer Lab Utilization

Units that employ computer labs for instruction, laboratory, etc., are advised to potentially schedule courses around a delayed use of the labs for the first two weeks of the semester, if possible. This will allow IT time to evaluate, clean, and repair any computers needed. A priority is being given to restoring individual workstations first.

Blackboard

[Blackboard](#) is accessible for Fall course planning.

2023-2024 Personnel Calendar

For planning purposes, you may view the 2023-2024 Personnel Calendar, as well as the 2024-2025 forward-looking Personnel Calendar online.

[View Personnel Calendars](#)

Employee Hiring

Should any vice president have full-time **faculty** that are being hired at the last moment or in the process of being on-boarded, please schedule a time to work with the Director of Human Resources, as they will receive a priority to get the semester instruction going.

Part-time employees, some staff rehires, and student worker positions may flow a little slower.

Student Transcripts

Student transcripts have been slowed due to a separate and non-MSU-related data breach at the National Clearinghouse (the organization that handles many of the transcripts nationwide), as well as our individual cyberattack. Our registrar's office is beginning to work through a backlog of these, and it will take some time to unwind. If you have needs in this area and can wait a little longer, please do so.

Campus Facility Renovation/Repair/Construction

Our campus facility upgrades are continuing at a fast pace in order to complete key areas before the semester begins. However, due to the number, size, and scope, many of them will be ongoing and continue throughout the academic year. These renovations, and new ones starting, will likely continue for another year or two and cause partial disruption to buildings and occasional pedestrian and vehicle traffic flow changes during times. vice presidents and deans are asked to work with units to coordinate around these as needed.

For the period of July 27-August 7, there will be heavy paving and sealing in the residential part of campus, University Boulevard, and at the Main Street entrance to campus.

The Next Two Weeks

We want to take a moment to let our employees know that it will take some more time before all technology applications are running. Over the next week or two, we will continue to work through the network restoration, the cleaning of as many computers as possible, password changes, and the restoration of Colleague and other software. The work to date has been very detailed, at times daunting, and we are conducting it with as many safeguards as possible. We will try to keep our campus updated as new items come online. Many thanks to all the individuals who have worked to get us restored to this point.

As the semester begins, we encourage you to attend as many events as possible and get to know our new students, welcome returning students and visit with your colleagues across campus.

Many thanks, and we hope to see you at Convocation next week.

Jay Morgan
President