

February 2, 2021

MSU Faculty and Staff:

Thank you to everyone for your teamwork on keeping this Spring semester moving forward.

A few updates/reminders:

Dates:

- February 17 – Academic Break for Students – University remains open, but classes are cancelled. This is a day off for students in lieu of not having a Spring Break.
- Any employee who tested for Covid-19 between January 1-15 and provided proof of testing to Human Resources also qualifies for a paid day off on the specific date of February 17. HR has noted proof of testing in your file and your Vice President has been made aware of those in each unit.
- All employees are provided with one paid day off during the month of February. This is in lieu of not having time off during Fall Break 2020. Employees should coordinate the respective day with their supervisor.

University Travel:

- Education Abroad is paused until August 1, 2021.
- Out-of-state University business travel is paused until June 30, 2021. Vice Presidents may approve in writing any out-of-state travel if it is necessary to the operations of the University.
- In-state University business travel is permitted.

Operating, ADUC, and Library:

- For the month of February, University Vice Presidents and direct Presidential reports have the ability to work with each of their units to determine the best options for working arrangements.
- Beginning February 1, ADUC and the Library extended their hours from 8 pm to 10 pm. They were keeping a tighter schedule for the first two weeks of the semester to assist with a return to campus plan.

Call-Out:

Congratulations to the Department of Athletics. In a recent report of the 2019-2020 academic year, it is notable that 11 of our athletic teams had a perfect Academic Progress Rate (APR) score of 1,000.

New Student Admission for Fall 2021:

As you are likely aware, most universities in the Commonwealth have reverted to a “test optional” admission process at the undergraduate level (i.e. no standardized test - ACT/SAT - required for admission). We made this change to test optional for entry for Fall of 2020 students and will do so again for Fall of 2021 students. Our state, along with others, has had significant issues with students being able to adequately complete the ACT/SAT examination.

Please make it a point to reach out to a student or a group and check on them to see how they are doing. We have done a great job in the past few years on improving retention, and need to continue that push by making sure they are doing well this semester.

Weather Alerts:

As we move through February and inclement weather presents itself, make sure you stay tuned to early morning weather announcements. These come via email, University social media, and our website. You may also sign up for text alerts at <https://www.moreheadstate.edu/weather> .

Thanks to everyone for pushing forward.

Jay Morgan
President