

Good Morning, Colleagues.

As we head into our fourth week of classes, thank you for guiding and supporting our students through our new reality.

In June of this year, our institution recommitted itself to upholding our beliefs in equality, opportunity, and inclusivity, and vowed to host dialogues about matters related to social justice and equity.

As we work to plan such events, I encourage our entire college community (faculty, staff, and students) to join me from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> for a virtual discussion hosted by Allegany County's Choose Civility project: **How Should Communities Reduce Violence? Discussing Safety and Justice**. Please [register in advance](#) (and download Zoom) to participate.

This deliberative discussion, facilitated by FSU's Communication Leadership Lab, invites attendees to consider options for keeping peace in a time of division. The event is promoted on our website, social media sites, and in the ACM [virtual] **Student Lounge**.

The [\[virtual\] Student Lounge on BrightSpace](#) continues to offer opportunities for students to engage with one another and available resources, from "Make & Take" crafting sessions via Zoom to important discussions about mental health. As the pandemic continues to isolate us from one another, this is a positive way for students to connect.

Many thanks to our eLETS, IT and Physical Plant staff, and the many academic program members impacted by our multi-year Technology Building renovation. At a time when technology has never been more critical to instruction, it's been an endless game of musical chairs for Tech Building occupants. Your patience and cooperation is appreciated. Currently, eLETS and IT are moving back into their offices, and classes returned to both floors of Pod C and Pod A North last week.

Looking forward, please continue to conduct your COVID-19 symptoms [screening](#) before reporting to campus. Thank you for doing your part to keep others safe.

With sincere appreciation for you,  
Dr. B