

Good Afternoon, Colleagues.

Thank you for making our first week of classes during these unusual times a huge success!

Many thanks to the staff and faculty for helping students navigate the first week of classes. Your welcoming demeanor and patience matter, especially now.

Please set an example for students when it comes to correctly wearing face masks, practicing hand hygiene, and maintaining your social distance. This is critical to everyone's health and safety.

Despite the ongoing pandemic, fall enrollment numbers are better than we anticipated. We had remarkable gains over the past week. Our headcount is down 2.4% and FTE is down 4.2% in comparison to this time last year. Not including Early College students enrolled to date, we currently have 1,821 students taking 19,420 credits this semester. Early College staff will continue to enroll students through the end of September and Delayed Start classes begin September 15.

We currently have 124 residents in Willowbrook Woods. All residents were tested for the novel coronavirus as part of our move-in process with zero positive test results reported. COVID-19 education sessions will be scheduled for later this week and continue throughout the semester. I'll be participating in these sessions and I hope you'll do the same.

Thunderstorms aside, our Western Region Corrections Training Center (WRCTC) update/media event this past Friday for the Western Maryland Delegation and our community was a success. Dignitaries in attendance included: U.S. Congressman David Trone, Maryland Sixth District; Secretary Robert Green, Maryland Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services; Mark Widmyer, Western Maryland Representative for Governor Larry Hogan; Senator George Edwards, Maryland District 1; Delegate Wendell Beitzel, Maryland District 1-A; Delegate Mike McKay, Maryland District 1-C; Commissioner Jacob Shade, President of Allegany County Board of County Commissioners; Assistant Commissioner - Western Region Frank B. Bishop, Jr., Division of Correction, Maryland Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services; and Mayor Raymond Morriss, City of Cumberland. I've included a few photographs from the event.

I know the pandemic wears on all of us in different ways. I'm glad to be part of a college community that genuinely cares about one another and the success of our students. If I can help in any way, please reach out to my office or your vice-president.

Have a safe and restful Labor Day Weekend!

With sincere appreciation for you,  
Dr. B

