

July 17, 2020

Dear Coppin Eagles:

We want to take this opportunity to welcome all returning Eagles to the fall 2020 semester. To our new Eagles, we say thank you for choosing Coppin State University. You have made the best choice to begin your learning experience in pursuit of your professional and career goals.

The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly impacted many areas of our lives, including our opportunity to interact in a traditional manner that many of us prefer. However, we are resilient, and we will continue to find the safest and best ways to learn, succeed, and excel. While the fall semester will be unlike any other we have started in Coppin's 120-year history, we are working every day on effective and creative ways to have a semester that reflects the seriousness of the pandemic yet acknowledge that we care about the health and safety of the Coppin community. We have already implemented several creative strategies to deliver high quality education and interactions.

When you arrive on campus you will discover signage at every doorway reminding you to wear a protective face covering, observe physical distancing of 6 feet, and wash your hands frequently. Informational decals will be placed in elevators and on hallway floors. Plastic dividers are being installed in public spaces where you might encounter service professionals. Disposable masks will be available for those rare occasions a student, staff, or faculty member has forgotten their face covering.

A team comprised of members of the Coppin Community, including student representatives, worked throughout the summer to identify processes that will provide the support needed to have a successful semester, with classes beginning on August 31st. We encourage you to review the plan developed by this team, which is available at Coppin's website at https://www.coppin.edu/coronavirus. Since there are many unknowns with regards to the pandemic, and with your safety and high-quality academic programs and experiences in mind, we will offer most courses through virtual modality – online synchronous and asynchronous (this means many courses will be available on line and in-person at the same time). We will offer most laboratory courses and demonstration courses through face-to-face modality on campus. To support incoming students and to position them for success, we will also offer select general education courses through face-to-face modality on campus. The list of the courses to be offered through face-toface modality will be posted to Eaglelinks by July 22nd. We encourage you to reach out to your advisors in academic departments, First Year Experience, or the Undergraduate Academic Advising Center if you have questions or concerns. In order to best prepare you for the virtual delivery process, Coppin will provide opportunities for students to participate in professional development activities to prepare you to excel using virtual platforms. We encourage you to monitor your social media accounts as well as your Eaglelinks and email.

Our campus will certainly look different this fall, as we will reduce by 50% the number of students we accommodate in the residence halls. Meals for students will be available by take-out only. Grill Works and Einstein's Bagel will not be open. However, Subway in Tawes, the Bookstore, and the convenience store will be open. We will continue to provide services (many remotely) through the Counseling Center, Residence Life, Career Services, Disability Support Services Programs, academic support, the Community Health Center, and of course all service offices will be available remotely or in person and ready to meet your needs. We encourage you to continue to be or become involved in the Student Government Association, and other co-curricular student activities, including participation in clubs and organizations, athletics, and community service.

We are in this together and we are committed to providing a safe and rewarding learning experience for everyone. Stay safe! Go Eagles!!

Sincerely,

Essence Bennett SGA President

Leontye L. Lewis Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs

Michael Freeman Vice President, Enrollment Management & Student Affairs