

From: [Office of the President](#)
To: [University Community](#); [MU Students](#)
Subject: Message from President Wubah - July 27
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 3:16:19 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)



JULY 27, 2020

Dear Marauder Family,

The start of the Fall 2020 semester is about four weeks away and my leadership team is actively working on creating an optimum environment for our students to continue their education when classes begin. We are acutely aware of the continued spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and very mindful of our students' desire to be engaged in the unique Millersville experience.

For the past several months, our faculty and staff have worked diligently to develop plans that will not only provide for the health and safety of our students this fall semester, but also position them for success in the years beyond this crisis. These individuals have accomplished so much by demonstrating an amazing ability to respond to immediate challenges presented by the pandemic while planning to operate within the constraints it will impose in the days ahead.

Our mission is to be a community dedicated to high quality education at an exceptional value. As a community we have a responsibility to safeguard the health of our faculty, staff and students. That responsibility has guided our decision-making throughout this crisis; necessitating that we take strong action to protect our community while providing a high-quality education.

Courses and Course Schedules

In light of the continued increase of COVID-19 cases nationally, fall instruction will be provided primarily in online/remote modality. Over 80% of the instruction will be offered remotely. This approach may include synchronous teaching and learning where students are required to be present on specific dates and times, and/or asynchronous teaching and learning where students have the flexibility to enter the course when they are able. Most experiential courses requiring student participation on campus, including science and engineering labs; performing, visual or studio arts; and clinical, field and student teaching placements, will be offered in face-to-face and/or hybrid modalities. This approach will further decrease population density on campus and assist us in making our safety and mitigation efforts more effective.

This transition to primarily remote instructional modality will require further revision of the class schedules, which will be completed and uploaded for your review no later than the morning of Thursday, July 30. After reviewing their schedules, students should immediately contact their academic advisor or [department chair](#) if they have questions or need to make changes. You may also contact the Office of Academic Advisement and Student Development (717-871-

7607, Sherry.Mull@millersville.edu).

Housing

In the interest of reducing the overall density of individuals on campus, we will welcome a reduced number of students into campus housing using a one-student-per-bedroom approach. This method will prioritize the health and safety of our students by helping provide adequate social distancing in the residence halls.

Unfortunately, this approach will also limit the total number of students that we can accommodate in our on-campus housing. We are therefore offering the opportunity to cancel your housing contract to those students who planned on living in The Villages, Shenks Hall or Reighard Hall. To cancel your housing contract for the Fall 2020 Semester, please log into your MAX account and complete the housing questionnaire that first appears. If you are not ready to decide, please select no. If you later decide to cancel your housing please go to "Student Services-Housing and Dining-My Housing-Applications-Fall 2020 Housing Cancellation Request." The deadline to opt out of your housing contract is 4 p.m., Monday August 3. After the opt-out period closes, we may need to notify some remaining students that we are no longer able to provide housing to them for the fall 2020 semester.

As announced previously, the semester will begin on August 24 and will continue through November 20 without stoppages for Labor Day or Fall Break. Students who reside within on campus housing will be expected to depart campus on November 20, the Friday before Thanksgiving. The remainder of the semester, even for face-to-face classes, and final exams for all classes, will be completed remotely.

Campus Spaces and Services

Campus spaces such as classroom buildings, the Upper Deck at Gordinier Hall, the Student Memorial Center and the Francine G. McNairy Library and Learning Forum will be open. Use of those spaces will follow guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as phased (red, yellow, green) social gathering restrictions established through directives from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. For example, the Francine G. McNairy Library and Learning Forum will be open, but access to study spaces will be by reservation only.

All student support services, including advisement, tutoring, career services, disability services and counseling services will continue to be provided remotely. Millersville University Health Services will continue to provide remote services and assistance to all registered students.

I look forward with alacrity to begin each fall semester, especially when new students arrive, and continuing students return with excitement to start a new academic year as a community. Therefore, I share in the disappointment that this fall's modality will bring to many of our students and their parents. Know that these decisions are made with our faculty, staff and students in mind and with the knowledge that better days lie ahead. I encourage you to continue to check the [Fall 2020 website](#) for the latest updates and information, consult the [Student FAQ](#) for answers to frequently asked questions, and to stay alert to email messages in your Marauder email.

In closing, I wish to thank members of the Fall Opening Committee from across the University community who continue to guide our fall reopening activities. The work of that committee, which is led by our Provost and our Chief Technology/Innovation Officer, is reflected in the information shared here and will be evident as we begin the Fall 2020 semester. I cannot thank them enough. I know that their passionate commitment to the health, safety and success of our students drives their late nights and early mornings, their work-filled weekends and their

cancelled summer plans.

Be kind, be safe and stay healthy.

With warm regards,

Daniel A. Wubah

University President



Millersville University