



A Message *from the* OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Faculty and Staff:

Please see the following important campus updates.

Focus on West Virginia State University

The West Virginia State University Leadership Team has been working on various aspects for the effective functioning of the University during these difficult times. Each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday since March 25, 2020, 14 key administrators have met to discuss the topics of online and face-to-face instruction, enrollment, safety, personnel working from home and communication among administrative areas.

It is now time to develop our own plan, "Focus on West Virginia State University." We want to have input from all faculty and staff in developing and assessing the plan. Many of you will be asked to communicate in small groups to discuss specific topics related to reopening the University. While later, others will be asked to assess and determine additional measures after we implement our plan.

Each subcommittee will have a chair and a recorder who will only list what is agreed for implementation. Our safety, security, and human resources officers will supply each subcommittee with information to assist in addressing their respective topic.

Please try to give this request special attention. Your contribution will help us address many concerns with when and how West Virginia State University will resume a safe study, working and living environment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Office Relocations

Effective June 30, 2020, the University's Office of Sponsored Programs will be transferred to the Provost's Office. The office will be relocating to the Campbell Conference Center.

In addition, the University's Office of Information Technology has also been transferred to the Provost's Office. As previously announced, the University's Office of Institutional Research, Assessment and Effectiveness has been transferred to the Provost's Office.

CARES Act Funds

The University has received more than \$1.6 million from federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding, with half of the funds received being required to be dispersed in emergency grants to students. As of May 23, 2020, 1,161 eligible students received \$833,196.

The remaining CARES Act funding can be used for University related expenses impacted by the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. The President's Office and administrative team is developing a plan on how those additional CARES Act funds will

be utilized.

Take care, stay well.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Charles Byers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

R. Charles Byers, Ph.D.
Interim President

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