

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 28, 2020

Dear HSSU Faculty, Staff, and Students:

Today I am excited to acknowledge our students, whose degrees were recently conferred under challenging circumstances as this most unusual spring semester closed. On December 12, 2020, we will celebrate those students who make up a unique spring graduating class. The accomplishments and sacrifices of our students, faculty, and staff will be memorable in the face of this pandemic and our institution's history.

Once again, I want to express my sincere gratitude to our students and faculty for quickly adjusting to remote learning and teaching this spring and now summer semester. I want to also take a moment to thank our essential staff who kept our campus operational, and everyone who continues to soldier on remotely as we fully engage in planning for the fall semester.

As we work toward coming back to school safely in the fall, the campus leaders and faculty are innovating on a new Hornet experience for students. We know the fall semester will look different from what we are all accustomed to. We have now received a great deal of input from every corner of our campus community, including dozens of innovative ideas for students return and normalizing our campus experience that places the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff as its top priority. As we look to providing different course offerings, I have charged our academic leadership to consider an array of delivery formats including online classes, hybrid classes, and some face-to-face social distancing classes. In this way, students will have the option to choose their preferred instructional delivery method to complete their degree programs.

The core of our planning effort is the development of a robust health and safety plan that will include but is not limited to, enhanced sanitation and disinfecting of facilities, personal protective equipment like wearing face masks, reduced population density on campus including classrooms and living spaces, and the ability to isolate any positive cases.

Our community has gone through challenging times over the last few months, and these tough times have made us stronger. I believe in the strength of our community and administration, not only to get us through this crisis but to ensure we are a better university when it is over. We are living in unusual times, and I have confidence in your extraordinary responses so we can continue to deliver our historic university's mission.

Please take care of yourselves, your loved ones and your fellow Hornets.

With Hornet Pride,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Corey S. Bradford".

Dr. Corey Bradford, Sr.
President