July 9, 2020

Dear Hornet Family:

I am sure that 2020 has not been what any of us imagined. In these times of change and uncertainty, I want to assure you that Harris-Stowe State University is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all our students, faculty and staff. With six weeks remaining before the start of the fall semester, I write to provide you with an update on our planning efforts related to the fall reopening of campus and return of students and faculty.

The University plans to return to on-campus instruction beginning August 24, and significant planning efforts have been underway since early spring to plan for our reopening. We have spent the last several months surveying students, faculty and staff, consulting with local, state and federal health officials to add protocols to limit the spread of the coronavirus. Harris-Stowe has implemented several new protocols and safety measures to welcome students to campus for the fall semester in August.

Here are new practices and protocols that will be implemented for the fall semester:

**Mask or Face Coverings:** As of July 1, students, faculty, staff and visitors are required to wear face masks when entering campus buildings and in all public areas. The University will provide reusable face coverings to all students, faculty and staff.

**Physical Distancing:** All community members are expected to follow recommendations regarding social/physical distancing (both inside and outside of buildings). Classrooms and common areas have been reconfigured to comply with social distancing. In addition, plexiglass, rope stanchions, and floor markers have been installed in student services and high traffic areas.

**Academics:** Harris-Stowe will start the fall semester as scheduled on Monday, August 24, and end on-campus presence on Friday, November 20 (to reduce public health risk). We will conclude just before Thanksgiving. The last three weeks of classes will be conducted remotely. This semester, we will offer three different classes: Traditional-online, Virtual-online, and Hybrid/Blended.

**Enhanced Cleaning Protocols:** In compliance with guidelines from the CDC, the University has been and will continue to implement enhanced cleaning and sanitizing protocols across campus. Classrooms, offices, restrooms, residence halls, and common areas will be cleaned daily. In addition, high-touch surfaces, such as door handles, elevator buttons, railings, and public bathroom fixtures will be cleaned frequently throughout the day.

**Symptom Monitoring:** Community members are expected to monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19. *Anyone* (faculty, staff and/or students) **who is symptomatic should**
remain home and should contact their healthcare providers. The University will conduct daily temperature checks and health surveys for all employees, as mandated by the City of St. Louis.

We will continue to work with health officials to review the policies and make updates as needed. In the meantime, I invite you to visit our COVID-19 webpage at www.hssu.edu/c19 to review our complete Fall 2020 COVID-19 Campus Re-Opening Plan.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we work to provide the best teaching, learning, and work environments for our students, faculty and staff.

Sincerely,

Dr. Corey S. Bradford, Sr.
President
Harris-Stowe State University