



MEMO

TO: Hawk Family

FROM: President Anderson

Date: September 11, 2020

As many of you saw yesterday, Chancellor Perman issued a statement regarding the budget circumstances the USM is facing, mainly as a result of COVID-19. We have experienced a slight decline in enrollment and auxiliary revenues because of de-densifying the campus. We also have experienced a decline in outside revenues because of the lack of rental income at Henson and other facilities. And, the state appropriation has been cut by 7.5%. At the same time, the costs for campus safety and keeping our workplace healthy continues to grow.

In this scenario, we have to decide how we will bridge the gap between expenses and cuts in the UMES budget. We will need to use all of the tools at our disposal to take corrective action. We have no choice but to thoughtfully review all contracts, trim operations where possible, and make strategic restructuring plans.

The very first action will be mine. I am personally taking a 10% voluntary salary reduction. I cannot ask anyone at the university to do anything, unless I am willing to also pitch in to keep as many people employed as possible. Not only does all of our leadership team already give back to the UMES Foundation, but, they will all also be taking a number of furlough days to help contain costs and support of student instructional needs.

Now, some good news. We have made it into Week 6 of our Fall semester when many thought that we could not make any semblance of a normal semester work. Don't misunderstand, this isn't normal by any means, but we are making it work - for our students. Also, when many other schools have seen double-digit declines, UMES is at an 8% decline in enrollment for Fall 2020.

While we still await what the State of Maryland will do to help balance its budget, we will all need to do our individual part to help protect the whole.

We will continue to monitor the financial health of our campus and keep you informed as changes are proposed, discussed and evaluated. I thank you for all you do and promise we will weather this storm together.

With Hawk Pride,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.