



MEMO

TO: Hawk Family

FROM: President Anderson

Date: August 21, 2020

Welcome Hawk Family!!!

As we conclude our second week of the Fall 20 semester, it's time to get back to recognizing our student and faculty achievements. So, I think it's only fitting to give you an update on the many efforts that occurred over the past several weeks ... so let's take the time to CHEER and say CONGRATULATIONS to all of those who continue to make us so proud to be Hawks.

Our **Frederick Douglass Library team** has been selected to receive an FY2020 Museum Grant for African American History and Culture Award from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The grant award category for "Cataloging and Interpreting Archives in the Special Collections Department" of the library is in the amount of \$49,818.00.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced its 2020 awardees in the Agriculture Research Service's (ARS) 1890 Faculty Research Sabbatical Program. The program provides opportunities for faculty at HBCUs to collaborate with USDA's chief scientific laboratories. Our own **Dr. Simon Zebelo** will collaborate with **Dr. Aijun Zhang** at the ARS Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville, Maryland. I'm sure that Dr. Zebelo will have exciting things to share with us after this collaboration.

Dr. Kausiksankar Das has been mentoring several undergraduate students to assist them in publishing an article in the journal *Current Applied Physics*, about using a new technique that is the first of its kind to create a laser scribed on-chip micro/nano graphene inductor. This could possibly revolutionize the chip making industry. So, what does all of this mean? It means that future communications, energy storage and sensing technologies could be smaller, lighter and faster. Even more amazing, this work received a high level of endorsement from the pioneers of the field, including Ric Kaner of UCLA (Nobel Prize nominee) and Ray Baughman, one of the editors of *Science*.

Several of our students: **Jeremy Wirick, Benjamin Peckman, Edelquine Mandzo, Noella Sama, and Tasong Metangpa** are winners of Maryland Lieutenant Governor Boyd K. Rutherford's public service announcement (PSA) video challenge. The state created a PSA video challenge program for college-aged students to increase awareness of the opioid epidemic to help combat opioid abuse in Maryland. Our students did an amazing job! You can take a look at their video using this link: <https://youtu.be/o7BdWrf7AVI>.

Finally, as I start my third year at UMES, let me introduce you to one of my new bosses!!! UMES is proud that one of our students, **Aaliyah Edwards**, is the newest student regent on the USM Board of Regents. Keep in mind that all regents are selected and appointed to the post by the Maryland State Governor; and the two students are appointed following an extensive application and interview process.

I am so proud to introduce her to you. Ms. Aaliyah Edwards, a junior Exercise Science major from Parkville, Maryland, began her two-year term on the USM BOR on July 1, 2020. She is outgoing, energetic, entrepreneurial, articulate, and an impressive leader. Here's what Ms. Edwards said in her application for consideration to become a student regent: "All my life I enjoyed being a leader and helping others, so when I got to UMES, I made it my goal to leave my mark here. I didn't want to just be a number for enrollment but I wanted to be known for being the girl who helped others and lead them down the right path. Being a Student Regent will help me tap into my leadership side and also help represent the students. In high school, I was in a Law and Public Policy program so this position will allow me to use the knowledge I learned from high school to help others. Lastly, I currently represent the University in a positive light and I believe this position will allow me to continue to do so."

WOW! Just think for the second time in three years, one of my bosses is one of OUR students!!



Wearing my mask with Hawk Pride!!!!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leishi M. Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.