Welcome students, family and friends:
We know we cannot answer every question during our one hour together, but we will do our best to answer the most frequently asked questions. If you have a specific question regarding classes, we encourage you to connect with your department chair. He or she is best equipped to help you stay on track to degree completion and help you find available classes to fit your needs.
Planning for Fall 2020

Topics to be covered in today’s discussion:

• Introduction of New Student Leaders
• Looking Back
• Cleaning
• Testing
• Symptom Screening
• Personal Protective Equipment
• Classes
• Tuition
• Housing
• When/If COVID-19 Strikes
• Campus Services
• Social Responsibility
UMES Student Leaders AY 20 – 21

Michael Amo
SGA President

James Webb
SGA Vice-President

Jahad Martin
Mister UMES

Rakyiah Chambers
Miss UMES

Aaliyah Edwards
USM Student Regent
Rewind to Spring
A Pandemic Blind-Sided the Entire Country

- USM Schools began discussions surrounding COVID-19 as early as January 24, 2020
- Transition to distance learning just after Spring break on March 16, 2020
- Calls 3x/week since then with experts from Johns Hopkins, University of Maryland Medical School, UMB, Gov. Task Force, CDC, etc…
- We can manage this with appropriate safety precautions – It will take everyone to make it work
- For Fall 2020 all USM schools are planning for some level of in-person instruction (at this time)
Cleaning
Following CDC Guidelines for Cleaning

- Public Restrooms – Added tracking sheets to show when they have been cleaned and adding extra shifts to allow for cleaning throughout the day
- Classrooms- Disinfectant there to clean your area before you sit down
- Computer Labs- Please wipe down your keyboard with disinfectant wipes before you leave
- Residence Halls – Common areas, including bathrooms will be cleaned five times per day. Additional shifts have been added to increase cleaning frequency
- HVAC Filters for all Buildings – Filters are checked and replaced on a pre-determined rotating maintenance schedule
Testing

New Health Partners – Testing for America / TeleHealth

- Testing for America (TFA) is offering free testing as part of a pilot program. UMES is one of two HBCUs working with TFA. (The other is Delaware State).

- A baseline will be taken at the beginning of the semester with random testing ongoing.

- If an outbreak occurs, additional testing will take place to localize and isolate that population.

- Somerset County Health Department is offering free testing without a Physician’s order weekly.

- Should a positive case be confirmed, the Somerset County Health Department in coordination with our Student Health Center and other local officials will begin contact tracing immediately.

- COVID Training will be available for all faculty, staff and students when classes begin.

- New TeleHealth Partner will be available 24 / 7 for students to assist in triaging routine health issues.

Symptom Screening

Symptom Screening Technology

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
A New Kind of Welcome Package

- During check-in for Residents, a new welcome package awaits with your PPE
- State requirement of masks or face coverings in public
- Gloves and disinfectant wipes in most high traffic locations
- Body scanners in high traffic buildings

PPE purchased by the University:

- Surgical masks (Disposable and cloth)
- Disposable gloves
- Gallons of hand sanitizer
- Alcohol wipes
- Tyvek suits
- Face shields
- Gowns
- Booties/Shoe covers
- Handheld disinfecting fogger machines
- Body temperature scanners
- Sneeze guards
- Safety glasses
- Infrared, no-contact thermometers
- Disinfectant spray and/or sanitizing wipes
- Digital thermometers
Classes

New Vocabulary for Classes

- Hybrid, HyFlex, Online
- Classes held so social distancing in classrooms can be maintained
- All students will have some in person time with instructors and some distance learning
- New technology investments (Cameras, Blackboard 360 / Collaborate, new laptops, etc….)
- All students enrolled will have some expectation of face-to-face instruction
- New absentee policies are in place to allow those who become ill to learn remotely for a specified time period
Tuition Frozen By Regents

Our Institutions Provide Value

- Froze tuition despite additional expenses in cleaning, PPE, technology investments (Normally 3-5% increase)
- We are listed among the nation’s best value universities
- Tuition must cover the fixed costs after state support and
- Courses offered via remote learning provide the same course content, academic standards and outcomes
- Same instructors provide remote learning as in-person learning, with the same credentials
- Covers learning resources and campus supports such as the library, labs, accessible computer labs, Career Center, sports, performances, clubs
- University resources include critical aspects outside the classroom - Black Greek organizations, social clubs, opportunities for civic engagement
- Networking is a pillar of a university - professors, alumni, other students
Housing Updates

Move-In
• Freshmen – Saturday, August 1, 2020 – Sunday, August 2, 2020
• Upperclassmen – Friday, August 7, 2020 – Sunday, August 9, 2020
• **Appointment ONLY**

Health and Safety Standards
• Multiple Shifts of Cleaning in all common areas (bathrooms, elevators, lobbies, etc.)
• Thermometers and Disposable masks in every community
• Mandatory Mask Requirements in public spaces
• Established Isolation and Quarantine locations on campus (Student Apts Building 4 and 6)

Housing Standards
• Single Bedroom Occupancy w/ Shared Bathroom
• New Housing Partnership – Hawks Run
• Social Responsibility and Enforcement
If / When COVID-19 Strikes

Until a vaccine has been cleared, we will need to adapt to this new normal

• Isolation, Testing & Quarantine: 120 rooms have been identified to house students who are awaiting test results or test positive

• Contact Tracing via Health Suite and Somerset County Health Department and/or other local health partners

• Campus officials are prepared to provide transportation for testing, if needed

• Faculty and Staff will be asked to stay home and students will be asked to go home, if they can. We have space identified and food and necessities will be delivered.

• They will be checked on daily for additional symptoms
Campus Services
Dining and Campus Events

- 67 Events Planned (Ticketed ONLY) – Voting, Advocacy, Outdoor Movies & Concerts, Greek Intake, and Coronation

- Meals will be “Grab and Go” style and pre-order options (Students in isolation/quarantine will have meals delivered)

- Tawes will be reservation only, in blocks. No basketball, so equipment has been spread out. Disinfectant wipes to wipe off equipment. Closed every two hours for deep cleaning

- Library will have some furniture moved or marked off to maintain social distance

- Campus shuttle and Hawk’s Landing shuttle are running with limited capacity to enforce physical distance (disinfectant wipes on board & hand sanitizer provided on board as well) (Deep cleaning every day)

- Shore Transit is still running (local Salisbury, Fruitland, Ocean City)

- Greyhound Bus Service still running (Baltimore, Philadelphia, Silver Spring, Hagerstown, New York)
Social Responsibility

Protect Yourself
• Practice good hygiene  
• Frequent handwashing  
• Keep hand sanitizer on hand  
• Use disinfectant wipes where possible  
• Find ways to relax

Protect Your Friends
• Use the Symptom Screener Daily  
• Remind each other about the importance of PPE  
• Avoid Drugs and Alcohol  
• Sharing is NOT Caring

Protect the Community
• Think 2x before sharing close contact  
• Practice 6ft of social distancing where possible  
• Avoid UNSANCTIONED large gatherings and events  
• WEAR A MASK AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, ESPECIALLY IN PUBLIC SPACES
THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

We know you still have questions. We are all learning new things about COVID-19 as each day comes. The University is prioritizing health and safety for our entire campus community and if the situation with the virus changes, our plans may change. Please watch our website and our social media for the most recent updates to our campus planning.
UMES National Recognition

20 BEST AFFORDABLE SCHOOLS IN MARYLAND FOR BACHELOR’S DEGREE

TOP 15 BEST COLLEGES IN MARYLAND

TOP HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

BEST HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES TOP CONSSENSUS

BEST OF THE BEST HBCUS AND COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES