

## WFH Week 9 - Tomorrow's message, today

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To: Hshsl-All Staff <hshsl-allstaff@umaryland.edu>

Hello all –

Am taking the day off tomorrow, so thought I better write today. Hope you have been scheduling some time off too.

For the 38 of us who were together on the Welcome (Back) Sandy Galvez gathering today, wasn't it great to see everybody? Thanks Sandy for coming back so we could get together (even w/o bagels and coffee). Thanks to those who sent good wishes in the Chat box. We're getting pretty good at this web conferencing stuff. And thanks to the DHs for sharing updates for your divisions. It was a great reminder about all the work being done. Personally, I was really excited to hear about the progress being made on the second floor. Ginger will send pictures soon.

What happened to Brian's beard?

Also, Erin reported on 1 million DOCLINE requests. 1 Million (said in my best Dr. Evil voice).

And the RML reported it now has over 2000 network members in our region.

So much going on!

Everly shared with us that the HS/HSL being lit up at night was featured in a campus publication.

I attended a couple of significant meetings this week.

1. Roger Ward is now the Acting Provost (he is also Dean of the Graduate School) and so I report to him. There have been some reorganizations of that office to bring it more in line with what provost offices do. Hopefully there will be an org chart soon that I can share.
2. I attended a meeting of the Vice Presidents and Associate Deans where we discussed reopening and what that would look like. I will stress there is no concrete plan. The entire university will not open at once. There are a lot of unknowns. On Friday, expect a communication that is a best guess framework for moving forward and the road to recovery at UMB. However, this could change based on environmental factors, budget and things we can't even imagine. I can assure you that UMB Administration is taking into account many of the major concerns you raised – risk factors, public transportation, child care, social distancing, cleanliness. This is a very concerned and thoughtful administration. The words we need to remember are **incremental** (as in reopening will be a phased approach), **flexibility** (things will be changing as we learn more. Our responses may change as well), and **patience**. It was stressed that UMB may approach things differently than the Governor, the City, the USM – the best decisions will be made based on UMB's needs and information in our community. There was no discussion about budget or personnel other than waiting and seeing (**patience**).

A couple of things I am thinking:

1. I really enjoyed the gathering today. Let's find time to do it again.
2. Is anyone else losing the calluses on their feet? Since I have been wearing tennis shoes and clogs, the calluses I built up wearing my big girl shoes are wearing off. I guess when we get back to UMB, I will have to **incrementally** build up to wearing those shoes.
3. I know we are social distancing but Abby Cadabby from Sesame Street made me feel better:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xa\\_qNH8u3OM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xa_qNH8u3OM) (now you are convinced I am a nut)
4. And for you Wizard of Oz fans – Go to Google, type in Wizard of Oz. On the right side of the page where the summary of the movie is, click the ruby slippers, and then click the tornado.

Have a nice weekend all!

M.J.

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