

Wink, Tara

From: Tooley, M.J.
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Hshsl-All Staff
Subject: Working - Way too long!

Good afternoon.

I think I am weary and frayed around the edges. Testy and cranky? Yes. Feeling a sense of loss? Yes. Mentally fatigued? Definitely.

I am looking forward to a few days off and hope many of you are doing the same.

As I was taking my lunch walk today I was thinking of all the things I am thankful for, and there are many.

But one thing that came to mind as I was walking was...**turkey buzzards**. I am so fascinated by them – they are so ugly but so useful in cleaning up messes. But oh, they are beautiful flyers. They ride the air currents and soar and swoop and from far away, they are not ugly.

My thinking linking Thanksgiving and turkey buzzards (other than the word turkey) is that there are so many messes needing to be cleaned up. Right now it is so ugly and scary out there. We all need to be turkey buzzards and clean up all the messes we can, using truth, grace, and kindness. And then everyone can fly beautifully.

Beyond turkey buzzards, I have a lot to be thankful for. Too much to list here with the exception of one thing – all of you. Thanks for those who are onsite in the library. Thanks for those who are at home and who have pivoted all their work to an online environment. Thanks for those who are caregivers and still give their all every day. Thanks to the Library leadership team – your advice and support has sustained me.

And thanks to all of those on the front lines who care for us and protect us. It's a pretty long list these days.

And now onto the usual stuff:

1. Cue the trumpets! The HS/HSL will officially celebrate the holidays during the week of December 7-11. Each division is going to claim a day and have a special event for the rest of the staff. So, expect an email from each division head regarding the time and details about the event. Should be interesting!
2. And on the good news front, there will be no collection cuts this year. By reworking our deal with Elsevier, and with an 11th hour donation from Academic Affairs, plus some scraping together of funds in the HS/HSL, we have saved the collection for another year!
3. The next issue of Connective Issues is coming along. The Annual Report is coming along. And, the holiday card is coming along.
4. The Maryland Charities Campaign is underway and I hope you are considering a contribution during these trying times with so many in need. We all have jobs and places to live and food to eat. But so many don't these days. This year's campaign theme is One Family, One Hope, #MDInThisTogether. I serve as one of UMB's co-chairs. The goal of the campaign every year is to increase the number of UMB faculty and staff participating. Participation can be a one-time gift or through payroll deduction. Gifts of every size are welcome and appreciated. If you had trouble with last year's online signup process, good news! The online signup process for payroll deduction has been made even easier with over 1,000 charities available. In 2019, UMB had the second highest participation rate amongst University System of Maryland institutions. Please visit the [campaign site](#), which includes links to this year's MCC Giving Guide, Campaign FAQs, and helpful information on how to get started. Thanks for considering.

Well, let's wrap this up. I am not sure if there will be a message next week. I can't imagine a single thing I could write about that should take you away from bingeing on Hallmark movies, leftovers, or watching turkey buzzards.

My favorite picture I took this week is of what I call a "leaf shadow" – the print from a wet leaf on a sidewalk:



I couldn't find any turkey buzzard humor so:



Happy Thanksgiving! Please stay safe and well!

M.J.

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