

Dear Campus Community,

Our Chicago State University community has received a number of messages of support and well wishes as we move through one of the most challenging times in our 153-year history. I sincerely appreciate the encouragement and the hard work of our students and staff during this difficult period. We know that CSU is an important institution to our community, city, state and nation. Therefore, it is essential that we continue to stay focused on ensuring the health, safety and success of our students, faculty and staff. I want to share an update on Chicago State's planning efforts that are focused on providing uninterrupted access to a healthy learning environment that continues to foster excellence.

Over the last several months, campus leaders have been working hard to review information and recommend policies, procedures and adaptations to help our campus navigate the continuing challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout this process, we have continued the essential and important work of Chicago State. We have concluded the Spring 2020 semester, successfully graduated the Class of 2020, began registration for students to begin summer and fall sessions and hosted our first virtual open house. Together, we are in motion.

At this moment, we are evaluating our plans for the Fall 2020 semester. I am grateful for the hard work of our working groups comprised of diverse members of our CSU community who are considering current city, state and national guidelines together with health and safety information. Our decision-making is guided by principles that align with Chicago State's vision, values, mission and service to the community. In addition, our work aligns with local regulations and Governor Pritzker's public health guide to Restore Illinois, a 5-step plan that lays out when and which parts of the state and can reopen. The Illinois Board of Higher Education has convened a COVID-19 committee to provide guidance on how campuses across Illinois can safely open amidst the ongoing global pandemic. I am honored to have been appointed to this committee alongside several other presidents of higher education institutions in the state and look forward to the hard work ahead.

Our Interim Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Leslie Roundtree and our Academic Continuity and Planning working group will make recommendations on the format of our

Fall 2020 semester academic offerings. The working group is gathering input from our colleges and faculty members to identify what courses can be offered in alternative formats while preserving academic quality and integrity. We are focused on providing our students with the best collegiate experience that is possible under the current circumstances.

In the coming weeks, we hope to have more information to share regarding our plans for fall with the understanding that circumstances are fluid and constantly evolving. We continue to ask for your patience and flexibility.

Please stay healthy and safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zaldwaynaka Scott". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a prominent initial "Z" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Zaldwaynaka Scott, Esq.