

## Alabama Agricultural & Mechanical University

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

P. O. BOX 1357, NORMAL, ALABAMA 35762

November 19, 2020

Dear Students,

With the holiday break quickly approaching, the entire Alabama A&M University family joins me in extending our best wishes for safe travels wherever you may be going. As you prepare to leave campus, I am writing to share a few thoughts with you.

First, thank you for a wonderful and safe semester. Like many of my colleagues across the county, I had several concerns about how this semester would begin and end – with your health and wellness during these unprecedented times being at the top of my list. I am the first to recognize that we expected a lot from you this semester: COVID-19 re-entry testing; hybrid classes; socially distanced dining operations, housing and events; mandatory isolation/quarantine; and several additional safety precautions – but you rose to the occasion. Your high level of accountability, resilience, and commitment to "Shielding The Hill" from COVID-19 was most instrumental in moving the University forward, both operationally and strategically. You have often heard me say the "best students anywhere in the world, the students of Alabama A&M University," and once again you have proven that it is true. Out of all the students in the world, I am most grateful to have each of you at Alabama A&M University.

Second, although classes will resume in a remote format on January 13, 2021, students residing on campus will move in beginning January 16, 2021. Please note that you must have a negative PCR test in hand upon checking into campus housing for Spring 2021 and that your test must be administered within the ten days prior to your arrival to campus housing (on or after January 6, 2021). Also, commuter students must test 10-days prior to the first day of campus-based class(es) (on or after January 9, 2021). The COVID-19 Response Team will provide additional information regarding re-entry and pressing updates at a later date, so it is imperative that you continue to monitor your university email account over the break.

Finally, always remember that "Service is Sovereignty." I charge each of you with one simple task to complete during your time away from "The Hill": Comply with all CDC guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in your community.

Sincerely,

Andrew Hugine gr.

Andrew Hugine, Jr., Ph.D. President