

# FALL 2021 OPENING PLAN



BYWATERS  
BUILDING

Roy Bywaters (Sc.) Building  
Department of Business &  
Economics, Upward Bound  
Campus Police  
Building Code 9115

 FORT VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
EMPOWER the POSSIBLE.



















With the measures mentioned above, we hope to give students a rich and rewarding experience for fall 2021.

## I. Recruitment and Admissions

The Admissions Office will be guided by the social distancing and other COVID-19 workplace protocols stipulated in the **Workplace and Healthy Safety Protocols** section of this document.

- Student Affairs will resume offering in-person engagements for the following:
    - Open House Events
    - Discover FVSU Events
    - Admitted Student Events
    - New Students Orientation
- Orientation will cover:*
- Access FVSU email
  - How to register for classes
  - Meet with their instructors and understand their program
  - Schedule a time to meet with a financial aid representative.
- The newly developed virtual campus tour will supplement in-person small and large group tours.
  - Face-To-Face tours are resumed at 75% of the standard capacity; however, face coverings will be strongly encouraged for all tours.

Undergraduate Admission will:

- Monitor USG guidance for any changes to admission policy and procedures. Currently, test-optional admission criteria remain in place for fall 2021.
- Monitor SAT/ACT information for any changes to the availability of testing opportunities.
- Implement Banner Document Management System (document imaging) to facilitate more significant improvement and efficiency.
- Facilitate data sharing across campus about incoming students to facilitate other areas such as academic advising and transfer credit evaluation.
- Resume school-base recruitment events based on guidance from the school districts.
- Increase outreach to school counselors with information on admission policy and procedural updates
- Utilize virtual recruitment events for engagements where those will be most appropriate.

For graduate admissions, the Graduate Admissions Counselor will organize recruitment and orientation activities in partnership with the Academic Program Coordinators.

The recruitment of graduate students will combine virtual information sessions with in-person meetings with the Graduate Admissions Counselor. There are nine programs from which students can choose. To meet the needs of the graduate students, we will:

- Provide virtual information sessions as an option to in-person sessions to potential students. Students who opt for the virtual session will be able to log on to the zoom conference call and obtain information about their respective programs from the Program Coordinators and/or

Program Staff. The student will then receive information about the application process and how to become a Wildcat officially. The Graduate Studies Admission Counselor will perform this portion of the session.

- Utilize the virtual tour option for graduate students.

## II. Campus Life

Campus life plans to host more in-person events in the fall to enhance student experience and engagement. All activities will follow the protocols noted in the **Workplace and Healthy Safety Protocols** section of this document, including decrease density (75% of standard occupancy) and strongly encouraging wearing of face coverings and social distancing where appropriate.

- Registered Student organization (RSO) meetings would fall under new occupancy guidelines when determining a venue.
- RSOs that want to meet within the current guidelines would need to track all meetings regarding attendance, location, and date/time in Presence (fvsu.presence.io).
- Mask and face coverings strongly encouraged for face-to-face attendees at student programs.
- Virtual meetings and events when possible, and consideration will be given for hybrid events if room capacity is limited.
- For clubs and organizational meetings that exceed current guidelines, a virtual meeting through Zoom, Teams, Google, etc., would be encouraged. Again, attendance tracking would need to occur in Presence.
- Make available additional PPE for sanitization of programming spaces. Items such as spray, wipes, hand sanitizer, and mask would be accessible for event attendees.
- Provide the option of online appointment booking for Student Services.
- To limit student and staff exposure to COVID-19 transmission, we encourage expanded use of booking software such as MS Booking to allow students to book appointments online and staff to contact them for services virtually whenever possible.
- When possible, encourage organizations to book facilities online. Current methods require a physical form that could require as many as seven office visits. Electronic facility reservation would allow the process to continue virtually, thus minimizing physical contact.
- For New Student Orientation, we will shift to a hybrid model (virtual and in-person). Orientation will be built as modules in Presence. Students can complete virtual co-curricular tasks, and they will be tied to their co-curricular transcript (CCT). Attendees will be tracked in Presence to record attendance for contact tracing if needed. Students can sign in on paper or with a digital ID to record the date, time, and location of any meetings/gatherings on campus.
- Explore the use of a digital ID card to expand contactless service for student attendees.
- Zoom or similar virtual meeting software can be used to allow large meetings in a virtual space. Microsoft Teams may also be an option.

### **III. Center for Student Engagement**

All activities will follow the protocols noted in the Workplace and Healthy Safety Protocols section of this document, including decrease density (75% of standard occupancy) and strongly encouraging wearing of face coverings and social distancing where appropriate.

The following operational adjustments will be in place for fall 2021:

- Provide options for larger groups (classes) to utilize workshops in D2L.
- Face-to-face training and workshops/meetings for students (mainly juniors and seniors) will be no more than 20.
- Plan for in-person Career and Graduate Expos.
- Continue individual meetings and appointments with students in conference room areas to ensure appropriate social distancing.
- All student meetings will be appointment-based so that we can control the environment.
- Organize lobby chairs and furniture to ensure social distancing. Students will swipe in rather than using pens and a sign-in sheet.
- Incorporate Plexiglas barriers at the front desk area.
- Organize training labs to ensure social distancing.
- Center staff will be strongly encouraged to wear face coverings in the building and when interacting with students and others.
- Remove high-touch items such as pens, magazines, brochures from the waiting area.

### **IV. Counseling Services and Outreach**

In addition to the on-site/in-person consultation, Counseling and Outreach services will continue to offer an Online Tele-Mental Health Platform using the META Application (<https://provider.meta.app/login>) to establish a personal and confidential connection with a Mental Health Counselor by appointment.

#### **i. Procedures for Students Seeking Counseling Services at the Wellness Center (Face to Face or Meta)**

- Students will be able to visit the Counseling Center for face-to-face counseling services as they have been able to before COVID-19.
- Students and counselors must wear a face covering for face-to-face counseling. Observe social distancing whenever possible.
- If a student chooses to engage a counselor via the META app, s/he will proceed to the telehealth session room, close the door and log in to App. (If the student has already downloaded the App, then proceed to counselor selection. If the student has not downloaded the App and created a unique password, they need to establish an account to start the session).
- All Crises/Emergencies are seen face to face and assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- All after-hour and weekend calls will be managed by META's Platform and Christie Campus Health unless it is an emergency/crisis.
- Students always have access to the 24 hour/7 days per week crisis line offered through Campus Christie Health.

**ii. Other Services Offered Through Counseling and Outreach Services**

The Wildcat Vault is a clothing and non-perishable food pantry that is available to students in need.

To enter the Wildcat VAULT, students will follow the procedure listed below:

- The student will sign in on The Office of Student Counseling Log.
- The student will be escorted by front desk staff to the "WILDCAT VAULT" and left alone to shop. Only one student at a time is allowed in the Vault.
- When finished, the student will sign the Log-out Sheet in the Vault and exit the east wing door of the building, not the front entrance.

**V. Dining Services**

**i. Operations:**

- For the fall, we will be moving all hours of operation back to the regular schedule campus-wide.
- We will continue to have cashless transactions in all retail and the dining hall.
- We will accept checks for catering events in addition to the cashless transactions.
- Continue with the safety protocols implemented for catering services.
- The dining hall will open all stations and amenities that we would offer during regular operations.
- Continue to limit the self-service operations in dining facilities for fall 2021.
- Continue with the carry-out options in the Dining Center and Georgia Room.

**ii. Face Coverings**

- All Sodexo employees will be encouraged to wear a face covering.
- The University will continue to strongly encourage face coverings on all campus facilities.

**VI. Housing and Residential Life: Best Practices against COVID-19 in Residential Living**

**i. Residential Housing and Dining**

Consistent with USG System policy, the residence halls will be occupied based on standard, expected capacity with some exceptions and modifications that will help us better serve students with special health circumstances. Many students will still have roommates and suitemates. The dining halls will be operational at 75% capacity. Social distancing, intensified cleaning, and other safety measures will continue and be modified as public health directives dictate. We have also designated and prepared apartments should we be required to implement any quarantining or isolation measures during the academic year.

## **ii. Community Standards**

It will take all of us together to keep our community safe and healthy. The primary way COVID-19 spreads is through person-to-person contact, so our best hope of preventing its spread is changing the way we behave. We will expect students to show care for their friends, peers, colleagues, and neighbors. This means students are strongly encouraged to wear face-covering when close to others, wash their hands often and correctly, and practice social distancing. We will provide more details and resources on community safety standards as we get closer to the start of the year.

## **iii. Living on Campus**

University Housing is taking multiple steps to make the student experience on campus as safe and exciting as possible. To that end, Housing has created the following to-do and informational list. Students are encouraged to carefully review the list to ensure a smooth transition into University Housing.

- After their assigned move-in time, students arriving on campus should contact the Resident Director for a new move-in date and time.
- Students are required to view and acknowledge the completion of the online COVID-19 Awareness Orientation Video.
- Students are required to acknowledge viewing the Best Practices against COVID-19 in Residential Living online.
- All students are required to complete the student information card and contract concerning liability before arriving on campus.
- All students must complete the COVID-19 Questionnaire online before arriving on campus.
- Students who have not completed the orientation and completed the required documents online will not be allowed to move in until they have completed the verification.
- Student move-in dates/times are staggered and by assigned building/floor. Students must check in during their designated time.
- No more than two guests will be allowed to assist students during move-in. Visitors will only be allowed 2 hours to assist with move-in and sign in at the front desk.
- Hand sanitizer machines are located on the first floor of each facility.
- Enhanced disinfection of "high-touch areas" like door handles, knobs, buttons, switches, handrails will occur continuously during move-in.
- Students and guests will be encouraged to use the temperature check kiosks located in the lobbies of each residence hall. Individuals with a temperature above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will be directed to see the Emergency Management Coordinator.
- Face coverings will be strongly encouraged for students and their guests as they move in. Wherever possible, a three-foot physical distancing will be maintained.
- The number of individuals allowed in an elevator at any one time will be subject to the social distancing limit, and face coverings must be worn at all times while on the elevator.
- Only pre-approved students participating in a University-approved activity will be allowed to move in early.









- Parking, unloading, and other directional signage will be set up on campus for informational purposes.
- Campus Police will provide directions to the unloading areas. If volunteers are available, then they will be only allowed to check temperatures and provide directions.
- Drivers of the students will be requested to pull through the line and unload items in a parking space. The driver will then move the vehicle to the parking area, and the student or parent will stay with personal items.
- Volunteers will not be allowed to assist students with moving student's items into the buildings.
- Hand wipe stations will be on the first floor of each facility so that the hand trucks can be sanitized before the next person uses them.
- The custodial staff will be in the facilities providing sanitation to the doorknobs, elevator buttons, restrooms, and other areas.
- Directional signs will be placed inside the housing facilities.
- New Welcome Banners will be placed on the eave of each building.

**vii. Move-In**

- Students are required to complete the student information card, contract concerning liability, view the Best Practices against COVID-19 document and the COVID-19 Questionnaire online before arriving on campus to minimize the interaction with the Residential Life staff.
- The Residential Life staff will verify that the student is assigned to the facility and verify that the student is paid in full and/or cleared to move in.
- The students will sign for their keys on their assigned floor.
- Hand trucks will be available for the students to sign out for usage during move-in.
- The room inventory form will already be in the student's room, and the student will be required to check the apartment for maintenance issues and/or damages. The students will return the form to their Resident Assistant.

**viii. Online forms**

The following forms will be available online for students/parents to complete:

- The Residential Life webpage has been updated with important student information.
- COVID-19 Online Orientation and Acknowledgement- Students will view the video and acknowledge they completed the orientation before arriving for check-in
- Best Practices to COVID-19 and the COVID-19 Questionnaire- Students must view Best Practices in and the Questionnaire. Students will be required to acknowledge viewing these documents before being allowed to complete the Student Information Card.
- Student Information Card- Students will complete before arriving
- Contract Liability Form- Students will complete before arriving
- Request for Cancellation
- Permission to Commute (Parent form)
- Request for Exemption

- Room Change Request
- Meal Change Request

**Online Fort Valley State University COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire**

TO OUR STUDENTS: For the safety and health of the FVSU campus community, we are screening all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to decrease the risk of infectious disease transmission among campus occupants. This approach is in line with current CDC guidelines regarding the spread of these types of diseases and is meant not to alarm anyone but to protect us all. We appreciate your understanding as we ask you to complete the Questionnaire regarding your travel and health. If you are approved to return to campus, you must comply with all campus instructions. If you are not allowed on campus, please visit your healthcare provider or your local health department for testing.

**Please complete in its entirety:**

First Name  Last Name  Today's Date

Please respond to the following questions:

**1. Have you had any of the following symptoms in the past 14 days?**

- Fever >100.0F  YES  NO
- Persistent cough  YES  NO
- Shortness of breath or other respiratory issues  YES  NO
- Persistent body aches and/or headache  YES  NO
- Persistent sore throat  YES  NO
- Loss of taste and/or smell  YES  NO
- Pink eye  YES  NO

**2. In the past 14 days, have you been in close contact with anyone was confirmed positive for COVID-19 (also known as “Novel Coronavirus”)?**  YES  NO

**3. Have you travelled domestically or internationally within the past 14 days?**

YES  NO

If yes, please list the Countries, cities or states:

4. Have you been vaccinated for the COVID-19 virus?

YES  NO

If a decision is made to have any version of in-person classes, before returning to campus, actively encourage students, faculty, and staff who have been sick with COVID-19 [symptoms](#), tested positive for COVID-19, or have been potentially [exposed](#) to someone with COVID-19 (either through [community-related exposure](#) or [international travel](#)) to follow CDC guidance to [self-isolate or stay home](#).

#### ix. Fall 2021 Residence Letter

July 1, 2021

Dear Resident:

Welcome and thank you for choosing Fort Valley State University as your Higher Education choice. As you settle in on campus this semester, the normalcy that you expect will probably be different during your matriculation for the 2021-2022 academic year. Fort Valley State is committed to providing students with social development, social growth, and an enjoyable living experience while keeping the campus safe. To ensure the safety of everyone, the items below must be completed before your arrival, or you may not be allowed to move in until verification can be made that these items have been completed.

- Students are required to view the Online COVID-19 Orientation video and acknowledge completion.
- Students are required to view the Best Practices against COVID-19 in Shared Residential Living and acknowledge completion.
- Students must complete the COVID-19 Online Questionnaire.
- Students must complete the Student Information Card and Contract Concerning Liability documents online before arriving on campus.

The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed. COVID-19 spreads from person to person and can be spread by those infected but do not display symptoms; therefore, Social Distancing is advised to avoid exposure. The CDC also advises frequently washing hands, using at least 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer, and cleaning/disinfecting surfaces. To ensure you have the necessary COVID-19 supplies, we recommend you bring the following items:

- Lysol / Shower Cleaner / Pine-Sol / Clorox
- Hand Soap / Sanitizer
- Disinfecting Spray / Wipes
- 4. Washable Protective Face Covering
- 5. Latex Gloves

## 6. Thermometer

A link to the Online COVID-19 Orientation video will be sent to your student email address. If you do not have access or have not set up your student email address, please contact the Help Desk at (478) 825-6228.

For additional information and instructions, please visit the Residential Life webpage at <https://www.fvsu.edu/residential-life> or contact us at (478) 825-6100.

I look forward to seeing you for the fall 2021 term.

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Shawn Modena

Director of Housing and Residential Life

## **VII. Office of Financial Aid**

We recognize a need for students and families to engage with the Office of Financial Aid face-to-face and in person. We will continue to ensure that this is possible while also adhering to new and evolving safety guidelines. Through the pandemic, we learned that wearing face coverings, desk Plexiglas shields, and the availability of sanitizing equipment has helped to reduce the risk of spreading the virus to both students and staff. We plan to continue with these practices and return to allowing students to have access to the Office and staff.

- As in place pre-pandemic, we will continue to use the QLess system to have students sign up for appointments to see a financial aid counselor.
- Students will wait in the Financial Aid waiting area in limited numbers (as determined by new capacity guidelines).
- Students who may feel more comfortable engaging the Office without coming in have the capabilities to complete the entire financial aid process online. This applies to both undergraduate and graduate students. Instructions on how to access the Office online will be made available to students should they want to be serviced via those platforms.

## **VIII. Registration**

Registration for the new semester occurs in a two-week period-- the week before classes begin and the first week of classes. New students register in the first week and returning students the following week. Students use this time to complete their financial aid, clear balances, clear housing issues, get student ID cards, and make schedule changes if needed.









**vi. Travel Arrangements**

- We will resume normal travel for the fall of 2021.
- We may discontinue the social-distancing protocol use of extra buses for travel in the sport of football/Men's and Women's Basketball.
- We will carry extra containers to help facilitate the clearing and sanitizing process of uniforms and equipment used at all games.

**vii. Financial Implication**

- Revenue
  - Student athletic fee
  - Streaming all home contest for a fee
  - Create a streaming package for sale (Football Package, Men's/Women's Basketball Package or All Sports Package)
  - Sell season tickets.
- Expenses Outside of Normal Cost
  - Test for all student-athletes\*
  - Checking the temperature of Student Athletes before each practice (Electric Thermometer)
  - Cleaning of building
  - Cleaning supplies
  - Hand Sanitizers
  - 1000 face coverings
  - Additional security during all home contests
  - Additional signage for all home contest
  - Additional ticket takers for all home contest

## **7. MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The marketing communication plan to support the fall opening will follow a similar strategy as the prior year, utilizing a multi-channel staggered approach to campus and external audience outreach. In addition to using standard channels of communication (email, website, social media, and media relations), the fall 2021 opening plan will also seek to employ the use of the MyFVSU mobile app to deploy push notifications and in-app communication to the campus community – allowing students, faculty, and staff convenient access and alert messages on the latest updates via their mobile device. This will include developing an internal campaign encouraging students and employees to download the App.

Key messaging for the fall opening will center on the importance of vaccinations, including encouraging the campus community to take advantage of the on-campus administering of the Pfizer vaccine at the wellness center, pop clinics, or drive-thru events. This will include promoting the "Why I Chose to Get Vaccinated" internal campaign consisting of students/faculty serving as ambassadors sharing their reasons for choosing to get vaccinated. This campaign is currently being executed via email but will extend to printed posters and brochures.

The strategic Marketing and Communications plan will also incorporate executing ongoing virtual town hall meetings with the COVID-19 task force and external guest speakers to help provide education and conduct Q &A sessions with students and employees to help address vaccination reluctance. The first was held on April 16.

Finally, a tool kit has been developed for university leadership to use for their respective departmental communication, including content for newsletters and FAQs to share during staff meetings. A critical part of the communication plan will include university leadership encouraging their respective teams to get vaccinated.

### **I. Communication Channels**

#### **i. Required Communication Vehicles**

- Website (both FVSU and FVSUag).
- Email/Presence
- Social media platforms
- MyFVSU mobile App
- Virtual Town halls (Segmented by Audience – Students/Employees)
- Departmental Communication (Newsletters, meetings)
- FAQ Document

#### **ii. Goal/Targeted Communication Vehicles**

- MyFVSU mobile App
- Pre-recorded education video conducted by the COVID-19 task force to disseminate internally to the campus community: (Example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Muj5OANc5Ow>)

#### **iii. Key Audience**

- Current/Prospective Students
- Faculty/Staff
- Parents
- Alumni
- General public
- News media

**iv. Key Messages**

- The health and wellbeing of FVSU employees are the top priority.
- We are dedicated to the institution's academic mission and look forward to the ability to return to campus to continue this effort safely.
- Information will be provided to the campus community through many mediums used to date to communicate new developments and provide resources.
- FVSU will continue to work with the USG to share guidance provided by health experts from the CDC and the Georgia Department of Public Health on ways to mitigate the spread of the virus.
- Employees and students must continue to follow the health guidance provided to take steps to mitigate the spread of the virus: Wash hands, practice social distancing in offices and public and stay home when feeling ill.

**v. Hierarchy of Communications**

- Level 1 – Public Safety Announcements – These announcements are of the highest priority. They include but are not limited to urgent security (physical and technological) matters such as a bomb or terroristic threat and computer system threats, health and safety, natural disasters, and impending inclement weather. They might also include campus-wide policy changes that are time-critical, such as in the case of students, new immunization requirements or other legal requirements that must be met for continuing matriculation at the University or, in the case of employees, widespread power outages or a situation in which computer accounts are affected. The time sensitivity associated with these announcements often requires immediate communications.
- Level 2 – University Policies and Policy Changes – These announcements are of high importance as they affect large numbers of the university community. The Key is that immediate notification is most often not required (though it may be) in some instances. Communication can occur in a planned manner, even if that means hours or days. Such announcements can include but are not limited to USG or university policies, regulations, and rules that need to be communicated. Senior administrators generally send such policy announcements.
- Level 3 – News – These announcements are generally related to news, past or present or future, that deal with events, policies, issues, and developments by or related to members of the university community. Such news includes, but is not limited to, university functions such as presidential events, alumni events, award ceremonies, public forums, concerts, athletic events, professional accomplishments, symposiums, dinners, luncheons, and so forth. Under some circumstances, an immediate notification may be required and may be of high importance, such as announcements related to severe injury or death of university personnel or student(s). In such cases, these news items would be classified as Level 1 communique'.

- **Sixty (60) Days before Fall Semester**
  - Develop a more robust and comprehensive Coronavirus resources website to provide the campus community with information about health, travel, emergency preparedness, and campus operations
  - Update all FVSU webpages with updated semester protocols, including campus tours, dining facility requirements, campus visitors, public safety, public Health, Housing, etc.
  - UNIVERSITY WIDE:
    - Distribute general message from president to entire campus community and incoming students on University reopening plans (Including the widespread introduction of new campus protocols, CDC and USG guidelines, policies, and procedures). This will be distributed via email, the FVSU homepage, and the FVSU Coronavirus webpage (<https://www.fvsu.edu/coronavirus-updates/>)
    - Send memo from Provost to Dean/Chairs and Directors reinforcing key messages in president's message.
    - Send memo from Office of Human Resources to supervisors.
  - COLLEGE/DIVISION SPECIFIC
    - Communicate the specifics of the reopening plan to staff from the College/Division/Office Level
    - Memo from Vice President to divisions and staff reinforcing key messages
    - Memo from Dean to Faculty/Staff
    - Message from Chairs/Directors to faculty and staff if appropriate Message from Supervisors/AVPs to staff managers
  - Continue communicating detailed social distancing protocols (Fact sheets, requirements, best practices, campus move-in plans, and dining restrictions, etc.) to students and parents via email, snail-mail, and post information on established protocol webpages that link directly from the university homepage.
  - Produce and install campus signage (posters, table tents, posters, flyers) in key campus communal areas that support established protocols, such as social distancing requirements, public safety guidelines, and distances.
- **Thirty (30) Days before Fall Semester**
  - Provide updated reassurance and information related to personal safety for students, faculty, and staff (Be sure to include information on health, travel, business impacts, academic impacts, environmental impacts, human resources policies, and procedures)
  - Communicate action steps requested of campus and community members
  - Develop critical messages for repeat dissemination regarding campus safety, policies and procedures, and goals
- **Two Weeks before Fall Semester**
  - Update COVID-19 FAQ page with most recent information on any protocol changes, new procedures, revisions, etc.
  - Provide any additional details on remote learning, teaching, and working.
  - Provide a timeline for mid-semester transition from online to the physical campus.
  - Roll out PSA website, email, and social media campaign, encouraging all procedures and policies for a successful semester.

**vi. FVSU Fall Reopening Message from President (Disseminated April 6, 2021)**

Dear FVSU Campus Community,

As we surpass the one-year mark for the COVID-19 pandemic, we have much to be proud of as a university. We witnessed enrollment increases in summer, fall, and spring while providing an educational environment that allowed our faculty, staff, and students to continue learning uninterrupted. We are immensely grateful to all members of the Wildcat Family for persevering during this time of uncertainty. Your determination and resilience during this time, as well as your willingness to adhere to our safety protocols, helped us keep our COVID-19 positivity rate relatively low. For that, we say, "Thank you!"

It is with much excitement that I announce our plans for a fall 2021 semester opening. The proposed start date for fall classes is August 16, 2021. Based on guidance from the University System of Georgia, we plan for a fall semester that will be a more typical residential and academic experience at Fort Valley State University. With the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines, we are more optimistic about the possibility of a fall semester that will, in some ways, resemble a pre-pandemic campus experience.

We are eager to begin the planning phase of safely welcoming all Wildcat Family members to the start of a new semester. While we look forward to getting back to a "near normal" experience, we will not ultimately return to business as usual. FVSU will retain and implement some of the positive lessons of our pandemic responses to improve academic instructions and modalities (including continuing to use elements of hybrid synchronous education), student life experience, work flexibility and efficiency for employees, and customer service.

The health and wellness of our campus community will continue to be our priority. Therefore, the 2021 summer semester will be similar to our current semester, with all the pandemic safety protocols in place. The successful reopening of campus in the fall will depend highly on the course of the pandemic and our ability to maintain the safety protocols to prevent COVID-19 spread. Safety protocols such as mask-wearing, social distancing, testing, and frequent hand washing will continue to be strongly encouraged. We will also continue to monitor mitigation guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Georgia Department of Public Health. Another critical part of a safe return to campus is vaccination education. We continue to encourage all eligible members of our Wildcat Family to take advantage of the COVID-19 vaccination available on campus or in your community to help us all get closer to a more normal campus experience. Our Health Equity COVID-19 Community Task Force will be available to answer questions and provide education to students, faculty and staff on vaccinations.

Throughout the summer, we plan to identify various ways to welcome everyone back safely in the fall. Please continue to monitor your email to learn more about these plans and how you can do your part to ensure FVSU continues to thrive during this pandemic and beyond.

Thank you again for your resolve and commitment to maintaining our University's tradition of Excellence.

Paul Jones, Ph.D.

President