
Subject: Fall Semester Kick Off

Date: Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 3:36:03 PM Central Daylight Time

From: Ken Hush

EMPORIA STATE
UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

July 21, 2022

Dear Team,

I have taken some time to allow the full magnitude to sink in for what it means to have been named the 18th president of Emporia State University. I am both honored and humbled. I am also deeply respectful of this responsibility and fully appreciate the role I will play in the future of our institution — the future of our students.

Over the past eight months, I have learned a lot — I am still learning. What I do know for certain: higher education is undergoing a transformation unlike anything before encountered. Students and their families have more choices than ever, including attractive job options right out of high school. They are looking for an educational experience that provides clear connection to a meaningful career.

While higher education is new to me, navigating and leading in a rapidly changing environment is not. Together we will determine how Emporia State will respond to this shift. Our number one focus is unwavering — our students. Today's modern students.

We've come a long way already. Beginning in January, we began breaking down silos by bringing the leaders of the university together as one leadership team; we have assessed and made adjustments to our organizational structure for efficiency and effectiveness; we have reviewed compensation for every employee on campus, rolled out the Strategic Enrollment Management Plan, secured funding from our city and county community and launched exciting new initiatives such as the expansion of in-state tuition to 48 states, disc golf, esports and cybersecurity.

We have made the kind of progress intentionally designed to keep us moving forward. Through experience, and by studying others, I've learned that an organization's success requires vision, clear objectives and people who are willing to make it happen. We have those things. And I

have never been more personally committed to success than I am today.

Please mark your calendar for Thursday, August 18 at 2 p.m. in Webb Hall, where we will kick off the new year. I hope you will join me and Leadership Team members who will talk about what's next for Emporia State University.

I genuinely thank you for your ongoing support. I look forward to continuing our teamwork as we move *Forward Focused, Future Ready*.

Go Hornets!



Ken Hush
President

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