Dear Campus Community,

As we look to begin a new semester of teaching, learning, and working at the University of Massachusetts Boston, I want to take a moment to invite you to explore a new set of resources developed to help us all navigate the fall semester safely and successfully.

When classes begin on September 8, we will continue to operate in hybrid fashion, with a very limited number of courses held on campus and the great majority continuing in remote modality during the fall 2020 semester. With safety in mind, most campus operations will continue remotely; employees should continue their current working arrangement until further notice.

Only students, faculty, and staff who have been preapproved will be allowed on campus.

To help all of our campus community members better understand the safety precautions put in place to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we have published the Fall 2020 Campus Guide. This new publication presents detailed guidance on campus operations this fall, how to access the campus if you need to, and behavioral expectations required with safety in mind. Even if you do not expect to be required to come to campus this fall, I encourage you to peruse this guide for your own information about our endeavors to make the campus a safe learning and working environment under these most trying of circumstances.

In addition, we have launched a newly redesigned umb.edu/coronavirus website. This site is a comprehensive resource for all COVID-19-related information for students, faculty, and staff. It includes relevant information about health resources, academics and remote learning, campus life, campus communications, and numerous other areas, including a daily health checklist for anyone coming to campus.
The coronavirus pandemic is demanding more from all of us. As we have planned for the fall semester at UMass Boston, we have done so with the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff foremost in our minds. Teaching, learning and working together with safety in mind so our students continue to make progress in their academic journeys is everyone’s priority at UMass Boston. Please join me in working to make fall 2020 a safer and even more successful semester at UMass Boston.

Stay strong. #WeAreBeacons.

Sincerely,

Marcelo Suárez-Orozco
Chancellor

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