Good afternoon and welcome back to campus! It is wonderful to see so many familiar and well rested faces!

This is truly a period of progress and growth for NSU. We have accomplished a great deal over the course of the last five months and are working to ensure that our forward momentum continues on the road ahead.

The summer semester is already in full swing, which means that faculty and staff are already busy preparing for the fall academic term. Last week the University’s Board of Visitors approved NSU’s 2019-2025 Strategic Plan, which will position NSU as an HBCU for the Modern World that is grounded by its heritage, focused on the future, and deeply committed to student success. We will define the University’s future as a four year comprehensive university with nationally recognized programs in the Arts, Business, and Cybersecurity.

The Presidential Search Committee recently conducted its second meeting and is currently working to define the profile for NSU’s next President. Please be on the lookout for information on community listening sessions, which will be held during the fall semester. We anticipate that the next President will be named by the end of the 2018-2019 academic term.

You may have also heard that Ms. Tammy Johnson - a member of the Spartan Community has been elected to serve as President of the Virginia Association of Educational Offices Professionals. We are proud of her accomplishments and know that she will excel in her new role.
All employees are working around the clock to ensure that we are prepared to meet the
test of reaffirmation by our major accrediting body. This is a major undertaking that I am
confident that NSU will successfully pass.

With respect to summer facilities projects, we have begun work on resurfacing the
football field, and will break ground on the new 600 bed student residential housing complex on
**Wednesday, July 20, at 9:00am.**

The ground-breaking for the residential housing complex had been expected to take place
earlier, but was delayed due to debate in Richmond over the state budget, which was just recently
passed. All Board members are cordially invited to attend.

Plans are also well underway for the build-out of NSU’s new office in the heart of
downtown Norfolk. Hud Crows-dell with the NSU Research and Innovative Foundation is
leading this important collaboration between NSU and the City of Norfolk.

Dr. Shackleford and his team are working non-stop to ensure that our enrollment targets
are met.

**As of today, we can report a projected total student headcount of 5,350 for the Fall 2018 term. This number includes 625 members of the freshman class of whom 355 are in-state and 270 are out-of-state. The number also includes 90 transfer students and 70 new graduate students. We have received enrollment deposits from 45 Presidential Scholars and 80 Provost Scholars.**

We anticipate that enrollment numbers will change throughout the summer, and will
work to ensure that you are informed of our progress in this area.
We have also begun in earnest the work of fully understanding and solving NSU’s student retention problem. Dr. Michael Shackleford and my wife, Dr. Patricia Stith are leading this critical area of work along with a highly skilled cadre of NSU faculty and staff.

In late July, the University’s senior management team and I will come together during our annual leadership retreat to begin the work of implementing NSU’s 2019-2025 Strategic Plan.

I also continue an aggressive push to connect with alumni and other prospective donors who can help support NSU and our students. Last week, I met with a major donor, and hope to be able to share news of a transformative gift with you in the near future. We also had a highly successful NSU reception in Washington, DC last Friday, which was attend by a host of alumni and friends of the University.

Together we are building a better NSU. With your help there is nothing that we cannot accomplish. Thank you for your continued support of NSU.

At this time, I am happy to address any specific questions you may have.