



MEMORANDUM

To: Students, Faculty, Staff, and Alumni
From: Laurence B. Alexander, J.D., Ph.D.
Date: February 25, 2021
Re: Update on Campus Conditions Related to Low Water Pressure

Thank you to the nearly 800 students, parents and alumni who registered to attend our Pine Bluff Water Crisis webinars on Wednesday. As discussed in those sessions, we are committed to keeping you updated on the status of Liberty Utilities' restoration of water pressure. While we are still awaiting more concrete information from the utility on when the issues will be resolved, we are hopeful that we will be able to move students back to campus soon, because water pressure is gradually increasing.

As of 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, Liberty was awaiting test results from the Arkansas Department of Health on water samples to bring equipment at one of its plants back online. If the second required test result is satisfactory, Liberty has stated getting this equipment online should increase UAPB's water pressure further.

Additionally, our Facilities Management department is making repairs due to pipe bursts in Henderson-Young Hall. This occurred because our pipes froze during the snow storm last week.

Virtual Classes to Remain

Because of the low water pressure issues and the repairs to facilities where pipes burst, we are delaying the March 1st return to in-person classes. Those courses will now tentatively transition to face-to-face immediately after spring break on March 29, 2021. During this trying period, faculty will work with students that are having difficulty assessing courses to make up any missed coursework.

Telephone Outage

Telephone services to the campus were interrupted due to water damage sustained at the communications hub of the campus. Technical Services and Facilities Management worked closely together and power to the communications hub was restored on Monday, February 22, 2021. However, most of the campus faculty and staff are still working remotely. Individuals who need to contact campus representatives, you are encouraged to utilize the Campus Directory and contact employees via their University email address.



CARES Act Funds and Refund Checks

Students who qualify for CARES Act funds and/or a refund check will received it by Friday, Feb. 26, 2021.

Counseling available

We recognize the emotional and mental strain this crisis is having on our students and want to remind you of our counseling services that are available through the Student Counseling, Assessment, and Development (SCAD) Center. You may call SCAD directly at 870-575-8969. All faculty and staff are encouraged to reach out to the Employee Assistance Program at 800-542-6021.

We cannot say it enough—we are extremely grateful to our entire university community, and more specifically our students, for their patience during this emergency. We do, however, want to remind our students that while not on our physical campus, the temporary housing is an extension of campus, and all students should abide by the Student Code of Conduct.

Please continue to monitor the Campus Bulletin and UAPB Website for further updates.