**College COVID-19 News**
Link to college [news](#) updates.

**FAMU Student Resources and COVID-19 Updates**
[Link](#) to resources and FAQs.

**FSU Student Resources**
[Links](#) to academic info, official university announcements and public health information. [Links](#) to COVID-19 FAQs.

**Engineering Career Services**
Virtual and F2F advising hours [here](#).

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#Let's Start Here

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## Let's Start Here Survey Reminder

*Dear FAMU and FSU students at FAMU-FSU Engineering:*

With [Lets Start Here](https://www.eng.famu.fsu.edu/news/lets-start-here) we are beginning in earnest a new step in our journey to increase equity, diversity and inclusion on our unique campus. A first important step is a survey to determine where we are in relation to these dimensions, and to hear from all of you about your personal experience at FAMU-FSU Engineering.

You received an email from me on Oct. 1 asking you to participate in this survey, conducted independently for us by the HEDS Consortium. This is not a phishing attempt (I know they happen all the time, sometimes with my email address) or an attempt to “check the box” with regard to these issues. This survey is hugely important because we must hear your voice and understand the issues on our campus and ecosystem.

Please take the survey at the link in your email. The link is unique to you so we can avoid duplication. It will take you only 10-15 minutes to complete, and I hope you do so thoughtfully. You may get a series of reminder emails until you actually click the link and take the survey, so please take it early! **This opportunity to hear from you is open from Oct. 1-15 only.** If you have any questions or concerns, please let me or [Tisha Keller](#), our survey leader, know.
Let me also reiterate that your response will be anonymous. The survey data is being accumulated by a highly reputable national organization that will only provide us with aggregated information. I hope you will be comfortable telling us how you truly feel and sharing your experiences.

I sincerely appreciate your time and your thoughtful responses. Together, you, me and the Let’s Start Here leadership committee will help take FAMU-FSU Engineering to the next level in which every one of our people feels equally empowered and supported.

Thank-you in advance.

Murray Gibson

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**University and College News**

**Attention required to COVID-19 safety rules that permit us to open up the engineering buildings**

First, I want to thank the majority of our students that are wearing their masks and staying 6ft apart while in our building.

However, there are a few students each day that choose to sit together or not keep their masks on in the building, violating university policy and CDC guidelines. The policy states that noncompliance may result in a report to the Office of Student Conduct. These violations each day put us at risk of losing the exception Engineering has been given to keep study areas/computer labs open and provide evening and weekend building access to our students. To keep our spaces open, we have been reminding students throughout the building daily and are pleased to see that most are following the policy. For the few that choose not to follow the policy, we will be doing the following:

**Actions to reduce mask/social distancing violations and keep our study areas open:**

1. **Speak up.** If you see someone not complying with the mask or social distancing policy, please kindly remind them. You have tremendous influence with your peers. Let's use it to for positive results!
2. **Monitor.** To reduce the number of violations, employees and outside security will randomly walk through the building to remind students of the policy. Again, kudos to those that are in compliance. Those that are not will have to present their university ID, which will be recorded in the college. Those who do not have a university ID with them are not permitted to be in the building, unless they are invited by faculty or staff for a specific purpose. Do NOT hold doors open for others that don't have their ID!
3. **Report.** Students that are repeatedly or severely noncompliant will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. *We need to ensure that the actions of a few students do not take away the privilege of studying in the building from the rest of our students that diligently follow the policy.*

I appreciate the challenges that you face as an engineering student and the extra burdens placed upon you due to COVID-19. Please help us to stay in compliance so we can continue to keep our study areas and computer labs open for your use.

Sincerely,

Murray Gibson
Dean, FAMU-FSU College of Engineering

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**FAMU Fall Commencement Deadline**
Graduating seniors who are interested in participating in the Fall 2020 virtual commencement exercises are encouraged to apply by Friday, November 6.

FSU Spring Course Registration to Begin Oct. 26, 2020

Florida State University is committed to offering as many classes face-to-face as we can, safely, in the Spring semester. Planning has been underway for the past several weeks. After
thoughtful consideration, the Spring academic calendar was adjusted to remove Spring Break and the semester will end one week earlier, on April 23, 2021.

At this time, and following the CDC guidance, our Spring face-to-face classes will continue to be held in larger spaces to accommodate social distancing, face coverings will still be required, and hand hygiene and sanitization stations will remain available in the classrooms.

Registration will now open October 26

In order to balance these considerations and have more time to update course offerings, the University is delaying the opening of Spring 2021 registration. Here are some key dates you should be aware of. Monday, October 5, the class search was published for students. This schedule is being updated daily. Monday, October 26, the first set of enrollment appointments open. All subsequent enrollment appointments will be adjusted accordingly. Enrollment appointments in Student Central and the Registration Guide have been updated to reflect these changes. Check here to see your specific enrollment window. Spring 2021 course registration will remain open for all students until Friday, December 4, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. EDT.

Tips for Searching Classes

Using Class Search? Use the physical location attribute in the class search to help filter the type of class you are looking for.

Using Schedule Assistant? Search for and add a class, then click on “Sections” (the gear icon) to view the physical location for each course section.

- Tallahassee-MAIN, Tallahassee, FL-MAIN [Flex], Tallahassee-SW Engineering, Panama City [Flex], FL, Rep of Panama, Sarasota, etc.: The class section has some instructional components that require in-person/face-to-face activities at the campus location listed on the class details. Plan to be in town, interacting with other classmates face-to-face and wearing your face covering. The absence of a room on these class sections does not mean it will be remote. Actual room assignment may occur after October 26 as we work to place classes in rooms appropriate to the enrollment and the social distancing guidelines.

- Remote: The class section has been transitioned to an online version for the Spring 2021 semester and will be held virtually only. There is no distance learning fee associated with remote classes.

- Online: The class section will be taught online and is specifically designed for online delivery. Most online classes have a distance learning fee per credit hour in addition to regular tuition and fees. This supports the additional staff and technologies required to create and teach the online class.

Do you want a scheduled meeting day/time or more flexibility in your remote/online classes?

- For Remote or Online Classes
  - Synchronous: The class will meet at the days/times listed via Zoom or other technologies. The registration system will not allow you to enroll in synchronous classes with overlapping times.
  - Asynchronous: The class will not meet at a specific time. The instructor will use other teaching methods like recorded videos so coursework can be done at your convenience.

Face Coverings and Classes

Registration is your opportunity to make decisions about what the Spring semester will look like for you. Please be aware that the University will continue to require face coverings to be worn at all times when you are indoors and during classes. Students who have a medical issue or a disabling condition that may make wearing face coverings difficult should contact the Office of Accessibility Services at oas@fsu.edu or 850.644.9566 (VRS for D/deaf 850.270.5370).
University Housing Considerations

Students and families with questions about Spring 2021 housing should reach out to Housing directly. Visit https://housing.fsu.edu/fall-20-move-in for more information.

Free! College themed ZOOM virtual backgrounds

Limit distractions and maintain privacy in your current surroundings by using a virtual background. Make a good impression and share images of the College from around the campus.

Check out the images available from our online gallery here.

Please Answer 644-5555: FSU's assessment and contact tracing

Hope you’re staying well and doing well in your classes this Fall. I’m writing to ask for your cooperation with FSU’s contact assessment efforts to keep us all safe.

 Especially for those of you who are taking in-person classes or are in Tallahassee, if you receive a call or voicemail from 850.644.5555, please answer it. The call is from FSU’s SAFER team. Your answering will help ensure that the university’s contact assessment/tracing efforts remain robust.

I’ve been told by the SAFER Team that positivity rates have been declining since the initial peak in early September, but we need to work to keep it that way. Also, use the Daily Wellness Check app to report a positive test result or if you think you’ve been exposed. The app is available on my.fsu.edu or in the MyFSU app.

Michelle Rambo-Rodenberry, Ph.D., P.E., F.ASCE
Associate Dean for Student Services and Undergraduate Affairs
FAMU Suicide Prevention Training - Register by October 20

The **Office of Counseling Services** wants to thank everyone that attended the Suicide Prevention Training last month.

We know that there were some participants who were not able to enter the training due to a maximum capacity limit. Because of this, we are offering the training one more time.

Please click **here** to register. Feel free to share this information with your classmates and coworkers. Open to faculty, staff and students.

Stop the spread! Support cybersecurity at FSU

You are essential in stopping the spread of cybercrime. Join FSU for **National Cybersecurity Awareness Month** and learn how to stay safe online wherever you are connecting, either on campus or virtually. Together, we can help keep ourselves and others safe in today’s virtual world.

- Take the Seminole Safe Exam
- Join a Virtual Cybersecurity Session
- Practice Healthy Online Habits
  1. **AVOID CLOSE CONTACT WITH CYBERSCAMs** Delete phishing emails and voicemails
  2. **COVER YOUR PASSWORD** Never share your password with anyone
  3. **DON’T UNMASK YOUR IDENTITY** Use 2FA for an extra layer of protection
  4. **DISINFECT YOUR DEVICES** Run antivirus software regularly
  5. **STAY HOME** Avoid public Wi-Fi or use a VPN to connect if not using your home network

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**COE Workshop Series**

- **I Published, Great! Now What?**
  - September 23, 2020 • 12 PM - 1 PM
  - Register at: [bit.ly/2zcKmNk](bit.ly/2zcKmNk)

- **Intro to Mendeley**
  - October 7, 2020 • 12 PM - 1 PM
  - Register at: [bit.ly/3ha3jkQ](bit.ly/3ha3jkQ)

- **Creating Scientific Graphics with Adobe Illustrator**
  - October 21, 2020 • 12 PM - 1 PM
  - Register at: [bit.ly/3h9iavR](bit.ly/3h9iavR)

- **Intro to ChemDraw**
  - September 30, 2020 • 12 PM - 1 PM
  - Register at: [bit.ly/2BMIWIp](bit.ly/2BMIWIp)

- **Advanced Patent Searching: Cooperative Patent Classification System**
  - October 14, 2020 • 12 PM - 1 PM
  - Register at: [bit.ly/2MLJ3YN](bit.ly/2MLJ3YN)

Register at: [lib.fsu.edu/workshops/all-workshops](lib.fsu.edu/workshops/all-workshops)
Join us for our weekly workshops & group sessions! Open to ALL students.

Maximum capacity for each session is 10 participants each week

To register for each workshop or group, click on the picture or visit our website at www.famu.edu/counseling

**Man Talk**
This is an interactive discussion group for male students to come together and discuss various topics surrounding healthy masculinity in a safe, yet candid environment.

Every other Thursday at 4 p.m.
September 17 – November 12

Facilitated by Mr. Stancil & Dr. Stewart

**Self Esteem**
This workshop is designed to ultimately help participants develop a meaningful understanding of how we value ourselves.

Tuesdays at 11 a.m.
Thursdays at 12 noon

Facilitated by Dr. Harrison & Ms. Boyd

**CBT (Cognitive Behavioral Therapy)**
This group is designed to improve participants' capacity for improved coping by challenging and changing unhelpful distortions and behaviors.

Tuesdays at 12 noon
Thursdays at 11 a.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Harrison & Ms. Boyd

**Decision Making**
In this workshop, we will discuss multiple steps that will include effective decision making as well as characteristics of good decision-makers.

Thursdays at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Facilitated by Ms. Mozell

**Trading Places**
This group is an informal discussion series to gain information regarding sexual assault and to increase participants' understanding of what it's like to be in the place of someone who has been victimized.

Wednesdays at 3 p.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Jackson & Dr. Stewart

**Can We Talk?**
This is a session workshop designed to enhance interpersonal skills and strengthen peer relationships.

Mondays at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Stewart & Mrs. Washington

**Q & A Tea Time**
This is an informal group for women discussing various topics such as consent, relationships, self-care, and navigating the college experience.

Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Jackson & Mrs. Washington

**Rattlers in Focus**
This is a four-week interactive workshop covering substance use (alcohol and other drugs) prevention.

Round 1: Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
September 16 – October 7

Round 2: Mondays at 4 p.m.
October 26 – November 16

Facilitated by Mr. Stancil

**Test Anxiety**
Are you struggling with managing nervous thoughts before, during, and after exams? This workshop is for you.

Wednesdays at 11 a.m.
Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Harrison & Ms. Boyd

**Stress Management**
In this workshop, we will cover steps of stress management as well as the stressful parts of college life such as study habits and time management.

Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Facilitated by Ms. Mozell

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**Last Two! Undergrad in the Lab Lectures**
These live Zoom meetings are open to all engineering undergraduates and those interested in attending FAMU-FSU Engineering. Registration required.

Upcoming “Undergrad in the Lab” events:

- October 27, 2020 | 4:00 pm: Bruce Locke, Ph.D., chemical & biomedical engineering REGISTER
- November 10, 2020 | 4:00 pm: Ralm Ricarte, Ph.D., chemical & biomedical engineering REGISTER

Events are free and open to all, but do require advance registration at the links below. Past lectures are available on the FAMU-FSU Engineering YouTube channel.

For more information on this series, please contact Tisha Keller, Marketing & Communications Director.

Staying Connected

WOW Professional Development Program

Text WOW helps aspiring professionals, from administrators to college students define, communicate, and share their authentic brand story so that they perform, persist, and pivot with confidence in their careers and leadership roles.

Click here for the program overview and information about the eight-week WOW program that launches virtually on October 19.

It could be a good fit for engineering students and PIs. Several women in leadership positions in higher education have enrolled in the October cohort. I would appreciate a referral if there's anyone you think needs help reaching strategic goals, especially in a politically sensitive environment.

Kathy Y. Times
President, Yellow Brick Media Concepts
Past President (2009-2011)
National Association of Black Journalists
Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers offers STEM students networking help Fall 2020

With classes, career fairs, and many key networking events going online, how do students network successfully? This new reality has created an unprecedented situation for our STEM academic community. To help, the FAMU-FSU SHPE student chapter is hosting outreach events providing engineering students with network assistance, resources, connections and opportunities.

Contact us for more information about networking this fall.

Staying Connected ...Safely

Florida’s COVID-19 Data and Surveillance Dashboard
Florida Department of Health, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

Want to add something to the next issue? Email us! Deadline is Wednesday for Monday publication.