



VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Panther Family,

July 31, 2020

Virginia Union University is stronger and better than ever. I am counting down the days to our students' return and the beginning of a new academic year. The campus will look pretty much the same, but the experience has transformed into a dynamic 21st Century learning environment. Technology has been upgraded throughout campus, which will allow for an enhanced virtual classroom experience for students. I am proud of how strong and resilient VUU is responding to this ever-changing pandemic.

Careful considerations have been taken during the development of our repopulation plan. There are many new policies and procedures regarding learning, health, and safety. All the details are posted on our website, www.vuu.edu, under the ReUnion: Excellence, ReImagined heading. Updates will be posted, as necessary. We expect more than 700 students to move into residence halls in late August. Instructions will be given regarding the move-in process. The wearing of face-covering masks is required and will be strictly enforced.

I want to thank everyone who participated in our recent reaffirmation evaluation by The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). A special thanks to Dr. Joy Goodrich, Dr. Lisa Moon, and Dr. Terrell Strayhorn for their leadership in preparation for the visit. We expect reaffirmation of our accreditation by SACSCOC in December 2021.

Your strong support of Virginia Union University is needed as we strive to make even greater improvements and support students. Many of them have been adversely affected due to unexpected costs, job loss, and increased technology demands. Your financial support will help us bridge the digital divide, increase virtual classroom offerings, and provide much-needed scholarships for students. You can help by giving online at www.vuu.edu/GiveNow.

90% of our continuing students have enrolled for the Fall 2020 semester. It is the highest retention that we have experienced in recent history. Additionally, deposits from first-time students indicate that we will welcome one of the largest freshman classes with close to 500 new Panthers. Please pray for our students and wish them well during this academic year.

I hope you are excited about the growth taking place at VUU. I look forward to a time when we can, once again, gather in true HBCU style to reconnect and reunion together. Thank you for your continued support. Virginia Union University is "Stronger Together."

With Panther Pride,

Hakim J. Lucas, Ph.D.
President & CEO
Virginia Union University