

Western Kentucky University

TopSCHOLAR®

WKU Archives Records

WKU Archives

5-28-2020

UA3/10/2 WKU Announces Big Red Restart Plan

WKU President's Office - Caboni

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records



Part of the [Epidemiology Commons](#), [Higher Education Administration Commons](#), [Leadership Studies Commons](#), and the [Mass Communication Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

WKU President's Office - Caboni, "UA3/10/2 WKU Announces Big Red Restart Plan" (2020). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 8196.

https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/8196

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in WKU Archives Records by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Alumni:

Since mid-April, dozens of individuals from across the university have engaged in planning efforts to restart WKU this fall in a manner that allows us to regain as much normalcy as possible while continuing to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. I appreciate the work of these committees to think differently about how we accomplish our mission with the realization that we will, for weeks, months or even longer, learn how to provide the WKU Experience during a worldwide pandemic.

Fall 2020 Big Red Restart

I am pleased to share today the first draft of the [Big Red Restart plan](#) with the broader WKU community in order to collect feedback from our many constituency groups. The strategies and processes outlined in the document ensure that we provide maximum protection to all members of our WKU Family, including students, faculty, staff, and the communities in which we live. We ask that you review the [plan](#) in its entirety and provide feedback by 8:00 am, Monday, June 1, using the [Big Red Restart feedback form](#). Your feedback provides an important sounding board to the intentional and thoughtful work done by our four committees and ensures our path forward during this unusual time is supported by our most valuable stakeholders.

In addition to our plans to return to in-person operations this fall, the Restart WKU Committees also outlined contingency plans to be activated if the public health situation requires. You can view each of the full committee reports at wku.edu/restart.

While we ready our campuses for the return of students this fall, we will also begin transitioning some faculty and staff back to campus this summer, with select offices opening to the public for limited operations on July 1. During this time, it's important that you call ahead before visiting an office on campus so that we can prepare to best assist you.

Tuition and Fees

As we continue to plan for our students to return to the Hill this fall, the WKU Board of Regents yesterday approved [three items](#) that support our students, their families and our communities. They are:

- Tuition: Year-over-year tuition costs will be held flat at WKU.
- Online course fee: For AY 2020-21, the distance learning surcharge fee—\$150 per credit hour for full-time students engaged in an online course— will be waived.

- Educator graduate student discount: The Kentucky Educator Graduate Tuition discount rate will be lowered from \$415 per credit hour to \$350, making it the third lowest among peer institutions. The special tuition is available to all Kentucky residents who hold a current Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board educator certificate.

WKU remains committed to providing access and opportunity to those in our region and beyond. We know that the COVID-19 pandemic affected negatively the financial situation of many of our students and their families, and these bold decisions, especially in such an uncertain economic environment, reaffirm our commitment to transforming lives and elevating our communities.

As we continue this summer to plan for fall 2020 and beyond, know that we remain focused not just on the short term, but just as important, on the long-term health and success of our institution and our WKU Family. Thank you for being a part of this important work.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Timothy C. Caboni', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Timothy C. Caboni