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## UA3/9/7 Fall Welcome Message / Convocation

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## Fall Welcome Message / Convocation

Fellow Faculty and Staff:

As the calendar turns to August, there are numerous faculty and staff working hard across our four campuses to prepare for the arrival of a new incoming class and the return of continuing students. We enjoyed a strong summer enrollment of 6,097, which is up this year by 223 students as of this week. But, all eyes now are on our Fall 2016 enrollments.

Numerous student groups (Greek organizations, marching band, residence hall staffs, athletic teams) are arriving over the next few days, and the Class of 2020 checks in on August 13 & 14. Never in these students' lives have so many people worked so hard and devoted so many resources to their arrival. Help us welcome all of our students as they arrive over the next few weeks.

As is our tradition, we will begin the new academic year for faculty and staff on August 19 with our opening Convocation. I encourage you to arrive early in Van Meter Hall as we will begin promptly at 8 a.m. This Convocation will be particularly meaningful to me as it will be my last one as we begin this year of transition for Julie and me and for WKU.

I look forward to seeing you on August 19 and to getting our 2016-17 academic year off to a great start! See you then!

Gary A. Ransdell



Dr. Gary A. Ransdell | President