

**Subject:** Giving Day, Middle States, and Gratitude

**Date:** Friday, April 2, 2021 at 8:44:27 AM Eastern Daylight Time

**From:** Office of the President

**To:** SRU Stakeholder

April 2, 2021

Dear Colleagues:

The calendar may tell us that the spring holidays are upon us but I'm feeling more like it's Thanksgiving this week.

First, I'd like to share my gratitude to our University community for coming together in the wonderful of ways one week ago for our annual Giving Day. Together we raised more than \$300,000 in support for student scholarships, clubs and organizations, academic departments, athletic teams and so much more. Know that your donations will have an immediate and lasting impact on our campus and more importantly our students.

If you couldn't participate on Giving Day but would still like to make a gift, the campaign will remain open through tomorrow, April 3, 11:59 p.m., to give everyone the opportunity to participate if they wish.

Second, I want to thank everyone who took the time to participate in the various stages of our Middle States reaffirmation of accreditation process. During the past three years, a team of more than 100 faculty, staff, and students have worked to evaluate SRU's strengths and to identify ways in which we can continue to engage in the process of continuous self-improvement. That process culminated in a self-study. That study was presented to the visiting evaluation team from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education who virtually visited our campus – and many of you – this past week. The visit went incredibly well and as we wait for the final Commission decision in June, I hope you know how much I appreciate your work. Even if you did not participate directly in the process, it is the combined efforts of our entire community that were at the core of making, what has so far, been, a great success.

All in all, it's easy to understand why I'm in such a grateful mood this week and I have our dedicated University community to thank for it.

Enjoy the weekend.

Best,

Bill