Dear Members of the Faculty and Staff:

The academic reopening plan has been approved and can be found here [https://www.southalabama.edu/departments/academicaffairs/resources/academic_reopening_plan2020.pdf](https://www.southalabama.edu/departments/academicaffairs/resources/academic_reopening_plan2020.pdf). I want to thank the faculty who provided feedback on the draft plan. Their input led to several changes in the current version of the plan.

Note too that the academic calendar has been modified for Fall 2020. A few key changes to the calendar include:

- Classes begin on Monday, August 17
- Fall Break has been removed
- No on-campus instructional activity will occur after the Thanksgiving Break
- The last day of classes will be Tuesday, November 24
- Faculty are not required to give a final comprehensive exam this fall, and may use alternative learning assessments if they so choose. If final exams are given, they may occur during the last class period prior to Thanksgiving or virtually at a scheduled time from Tuesday, 12/1 through Friday, 12/4. If an exam is given on the last class day, it must be given during normally scheduled class times to prevent time conflicts for students. Given social distancing requirements that will be operative in the fall, most timed exams will have to be given remotely, regardless of when they are administered.

The modified academic calendar can be found here: [https://www.southalabama.edu/academiccalendar/academiccalendar2020-21.html](https://www.southalabama.edu/academiccalendar/academiccalendar2020-21.html)

Thank you for all that you do for the University and especially for our students.

G. David Johnson
Provost and Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs