

Dean's Greetings

Dear Students,

As the Interim Dean for our School of Public Health (Initiative), I would like to take this opportunity and welcome each one of you back to a new academic year. I hope that you enjoyed your summer vacation and that you had a healthy and productive one. Please help me welcome and congratulate all new students joining us this fall.

As I shared with our new students during their orientation session and as you are aware, we are preparing to become the first accredited School of Public Health in the State of Mississippi. This means that we must put in place the necessary infrastructures (both physical and personnel) to support such School. As you will see, the library, computer labs, and several other areas have been renovated and/or are under construction. We have added 10,000 square feet that include new offices for four department chairs, two program directors, and a lecture hall on the 2nd floor. Please be patient as we will wrap up the renovation tasks over the next few weeks.

Additionally, the School's existing faculty, staff and administration worked together optimally to recruit, interview, and hire a number of new faculty members over the summer (81% of the 21 required faculty have been hired and or are in the process of being hired, and a plan is in place to hire the remaining 19% in the next few months). Three chairs and one faculty member will start their work beginning next month. We have also hired a couple of new staff members and assigned specific tasks to each staff. Once the hiring process has been completed, you will receive a listing of each new hire and their roles within the School.

For now, please note that Ms. Adams' primary task is to handle issues related to you (the student). Her office is located across from the Office of the Dean (Suite 320). You will also receive information on the School's accreditation endeavor at the beginning of each month.

All of us are committed to make sure that you receive the best education and a memorable learning experience here at the OneJSU School of Public Health (Initiative).

Again, welcome back.

Thank you.

Mohammad Shahbazi, Interim Dean
School of Public Health Initiative