

Hurricane Irma statement from Marshall Criser, chancellor of State University System

Hurricane Irma caused disruption and serious damage as it engulfed the state of Florida. Recovery is underway at each of the 12 institutions within the State University System of Florida. On September 15, Provosts or their representatives from all of the institutions of the State University System and the Vice Chancellor of the System Board Office participated in an hour long phone discussion to provide a brief update on where they were on each institution's recovery and to discuss how each institution was responding to any lost instructional time. Each institution will face different challenges in dealing with the aftermath of the storm while returning to normal operations. The hurricane's range of impact varied considerably from campus to campus among the 12 institutions. The individual plans for recovery adopted by the institutions reflect where they fell in terms of power outages; evacuation of students, faculty, and staff; return travel delays and other factors beyond the institutions' control. Faculty and staff at each institution are working hard to accommodate students who have been negatively affected by the storm while also responding to their institution's needs to ensure that instructional time and learning outcomes are safeguarded so that students can be assured of a high quality learning experience.

We are very proud of the way the students, faculty, and staff at our 12 State University System institutions have pulled together during this devastating hurricane. Institutions that have been less severely affected have reached out to offer help to others that suffered greater impact. By each institution developing, implementing, and communicating a plan that recognizes its individual circumstance, we can affirm that the options developed by each campus will respond to students' needs while also ensuring their academic success.

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