



BLACK FACULTY & STAFF ASSOCIATION
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
Stillwater • Oklahoma • 74078
bfsa.okstate.edu



Friday, August 21, 2020

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
Committed to excellence in diversity and inclusion...

To our Black OSU Students,

On Behalf of The Oklahoma State University Black Faculty & Staff Association (BFSA), welcome back! We, The BFSA, are so excited for those that are new and those that are returning to campus. You have been in our thoughts, prayers, and numerous discussions in anticipation of the Fall 2020 semester and we are finally glad you have arrived.

This semester is going to be something that we have never seen or experienced before. This semester will come with new adjustments, some challenges, and sacrifices. However, working together and doing your part, we will get through this as a family. BFSA wants you to know that **WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU**. The current racial climate has impacted our lives in different ways, and we want each of you to know that **Black Lives Matter!** We know the challenges you face as a college student; we recognize the new challenges you will be confronted with, and we will continue to help guide you through your college journey. We were once in your shoes and keenly understand the benefits of having support from people that look like you.

While COVID-19 has altered how we have done things in the past, opportunities exist now whereby we can use our imagination to confront the future courageously. There are countless possibilities we can explore to effect change intentionally, meaningfully, and holistically. That stated, don't lose sight of your end goal, a college degree. Know that it takes hard work, but you can do it, and we want to help. Take advantage of the opportunity and resources presented to you. Be sure to practice self-care during this time! Build campus and community relationships (safely) and enjoy yourself! This journey is a marathon, not a sprint.

We look forward to interacting and working with you all. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have, BFSA@OKSTATE.EDU. Please continue to follow the campus/community guidelines and remain safe. We all have a part to play for our safety and the safety of others.

Let's make Oklahoma State University a place that black students, faculty, and staff can continue to enjoy.

Sincerely,

Black Faculty and Staff Association

The Black Faculty and Staff Association at Oklahoma State University