



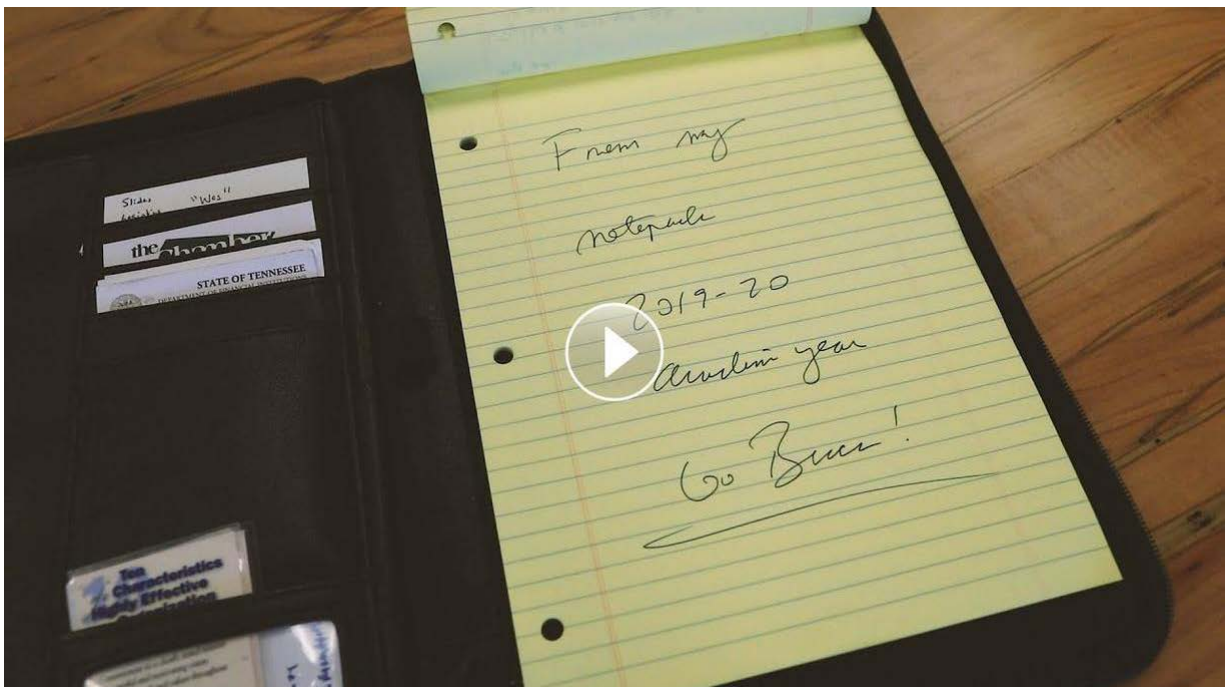
EAST TENNESSEE STATE  
UNIVERSITY



From **My Notepads**

April 8, 2020

## VIDEO: A Message About Giving Thanks



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## Upcoming Town Hall Meeting

Join me for my next Town Hall on Tuesday, April 14, at 11:30 a.m. The Town Hall can be accessed on ETSU's Facebook page and will be streamed via Facebook Live. This will be an opportunity for me to provide an update on activities at the university and also take any questions you may have. I will provide more information about accessing the virtual Town Hall in Monday's "Weekly Update" email.

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## Bucs Help Bucs

In times of challenge and adversity, the East Tennessee State University family unites to serve our community and support one another. Many of you have already reached out to ask how you can help our university during this unprecedented health crisis. We had originally scheduled our annual Day of Giving for April 22, but instead we are focusing on what we need most because as you know, Bucs Help Bucs. Through our "Bucs Help Bucs" initiative, you have the opportunity to help our students overcome the extraordinary circumstances they are facing, such as job loss, financial hardship, food insecurity, and mental health needs. You can choose to support one of the following relief areas:

- Student and Staff Emergency Fund
- Bucky's Food Pantry
- ETSU Counseling Center

Learn more about "Bucs Help Bucs" by visiting this [website](#).



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## ETSU Health: A Year in Review

The story of ETSU Health began more than 60 years ago when we graduated our first class of nursing students. Soon, we launched new programs, including environmental health and dental hygiene, and in March 1974, the landmark establishment of the Quillen College of Medicine took place. In the years that followed, we created a free-standing College of Public Health as well as the nationally recognized Gatton College of Pharmacy. The robust work of our students, residents, fellows, faculty, staff and alumni have been transformative for this region and state and in rural communities across the nation.

I invite you to learn recent stories of ETSU Health from the 2019 year in their most recent annual report, which you can view [here](#).

My congratulations to the entire ETSU Health team for an impressive record of accomplishment.

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## Finance and Administration Committee Recommends No Increase in Tuition, Mandatory Fees

Our Board of Trustees will hold its quarterly meeting on Friday, April 24, and one of the items that will be considered for a vote will be tuition and mandatory fees for the 2020-21 academic year. During a called meeting of Board of Trustees Finance and Administration

Committee on Wednesday, April 1, a motion was passed to not increase tuition and mandatory fees for the upcoming year. The board will vote on this recommendation, and the decision will be contingent on the approval of the Governor's budget.

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## Recent Changes to University Operations

In recent days, a number of announcements were made regarding significant changes to our academic and other university operations. These include:

- The **postponement of our May 2020 Commencement Exercises** and the graduation convocations for the Quillen College of Medicine and Gatton College of Pharmacy. Degrees will still be conferred and plans are under way for a virtual graduation ceremony. Students who are scheduled to graduate in May and wish to participate in our December Commencement event will be welcome to do so.
- **All summer school classes will be offered online**, and online fees are being waived for the summer term. Registration began this week.
- The Academic Council approved the "[\*\*Response to COVID-19 Emergency Grading Accommodation for Spring 2020\*\*](#)" that allows **undergraduate students to request a Pass/Fail grade** for courses during the spring 2020 term only.

We will continue to provide you with updates as they become available. For more information on our response to the COVID-19 outbreak, please visit the [coronavirus website](#).

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## Follow the ETSU Story

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