

Campus Update – Tues., 7:22 a.m., Sept. 15

We are experiencing light winds and rain bands this morning, while lightning occasionally flashes in the distance. It's pretty quiet here now.

Although Sally is lurking just miles from the Mississippi River's mouth, forecasters are having difficulty pinpointing the time and place the storm will hit land because it's crawling along at only 2 mph.

This means that Sally will dump a lot of rain. Sally's highest rainfall totals, predicted locally to be up to 30 inches now, are expected from Mississippi to the western Florida Panhandle. NOAA's Weather Center has even issued a rare high risk of excessive rainfall for Wednesday. Besides the severe wind, the rain is what has all of the Weather Channel newscasters whipped up this morning.

The good news is that Sally's maximum sustained winds are 85 mph, making her a Category 1 hurricane, a downgrade from last night.

So far, I have not heard a peep from our students this morning. Hopefully, they slept well. The Cafe staff is here, and they are preparing for breakfast. We will make sure they stay open a little later than usual to let late sleepers grab something to eat. I believe they are preparing boxes for each meal so students can grab and go. If there is a need, we will bring the boxes to the dorms.

I am heading to meet our Director of Admissions and Outreach, Ken Robinson, for breakfast. Mr. Robinson, who sharpened his crisis-management skills during his years of service in the military and as a Mobile County police officer, spent last night on campus and will be here again tonight.

We will keep you updated throughout the day—still no sign of Jim Cantore on Ann St.

John Hoyle, Ph.D.
President