Hi, I’m Michael Crow, president of ASU.

I know you just have a couple minutes here at the opening of the fall semester, and I want to welcome all of you back, if you’re returning to ASU, or welcoming you for the first time if you’re just arriving.

We’ve had a great last few months. ASU has been setting records in everything – research, fundraising, unbelievable achievements by our students and unbelievable outcomes. We’re very excited about where we are and what we’re doing in terms of the teaching, learning and discovery environment that we’ve created for you.

More than 100,000 individuals applied to be a part of ASU. We’re welcoming 11,000 new freshmen this year and thousands of transfer students from the community colleges, as well as more than 9,000 students from around the world. These are unbelievable numbers.

We’re reaching out with our hundreds of degree programs and micro-learning environments trying to create a place for you as students to be successful. Our number one – in fact, our only objective – is your success.

I know that university life, both in our full immersion programs and in our digital immersion programs, is always challenging, so I just want to remind everybody that we’re here to help to you. Raise your hand, everywhere with anyone – faculty, staff, anybody that you see – to get the help you need to be successful.

If you don’t get the help you need, let me know. Please be cogent in what you give to me as your issue or question so we can get it resolved. My e-mail is michael.crow@asu.edu.

One thing I want to add is that I hope you are all spending time thinking about your life meaning and purpose. What do you want your life to mean? Thinking about your dreams – that’s really what you should be focused on while a student at ASU. While you’re involved in our programs and courses, please focus on that because that is what we are really here for, to enable you to become a better learner – a master learner – a person capable of learning anything. Whatever path you’re on, if you’re in the arts, music, humanities, studying literature, business, science, engineering, philosophy or any of the programs we have, use that as your method of how to learn. Use that time to flesh out your learning capabilities.

We’re very excited about the opening of the semester. We have more than 13,000 students living across our campuses and tens of students around us.

Again, raise your hand if you need help. Let me know your thoughts, ideas and what you need.

Welcome back to ASU or welcome to ASU. Thanks a lot.