

President Maher's Fall 2022 Message to the NU Community

“Blessed be God for the strength and courage He gives you in all your works. You are accomplishing wonders.” —St. Louise de Marillac

Dear members of the Niagara University community,

It is always great to see the campus come to life for the start of the fall semester. This past weekend, classes in our graduate programs began in both Lewiston and Vaughan, and we welcomed our new and returning students back to Monteagle Ridge. While we adjusted the traditional Walk to Whirlpool based on the weather forecast, it didn't change the energy and excitement of our campus community coming together.

This will be a great semester on our campus as we reopen Dunleavy Hall, one of our primary academic facilities, after a \$3.7 million upgrade to greatly improve the learning experience for our students and the working environment for our faculty and staff. We are also completing work on the \$11.5 million renovation and construction at the Kiernan Recreation Center and, later this semester, we are scheduled to break ground on a solar array on our campus.

In the fall of 2019, we welcomed the Niagara University Class of 2023, our current senior class, to our beautiful campus to start the new semester. We cut the ribbon on the university's campus in Vaughan, Ontario, that same fall.

Our world has changed significantly since that time. People's priorities may have shifted, causing them to view the world differently. The way we teach and learn has changed at every level, which will continue to impact both our current and future students. And we know that people's lives have forever changed due all that has occurred.

As we begin the new semester, we reflect on the impact these past years have had and may continue to have on our students and our campus community. As a university, Niagara has always excelled at creating an engaging, supportive, and caring living-learning environment, and we know that this will not change in the days, weeks, and months ahead. I ask you to support one another as we navigate the semester and to be mindful of the wellness of every member of our campus community. Please remember the resources available to each one of us, including the offices of Human Resources, Campus Ministry, Student Affairs, Academic Support, and Counseling Services.

Lastly, I want to again recognize each of you, not only for preparing for the 2022-23 academic year, but for the unprecedented and extraordinary work that has led us to this point in our university's history. Time and again, our community has come together to be innovative, agile, and creative, all while living the mission of Niagara University. Today, we should all be proud to be Niagarans.

Thank you again for your continued leadership and commitment to Niagara University. We join together to celebrate the beginning of a new academic year, and I wish you a successful and engaging semester.

With every good wish,

James J. Maher, C.M.