



DAEMEN

COLLEGE

A World of Opportunity

Office of the President

May 7, 2017

Daemen College
Faculty and Staff

Dear Colleagues,

As we approach the end of another productive academic year, I am writing with some updates.

Several of you have asked if there is any news about whether the Governor's "free-tuition" program will affect Daemen's student enrollment. The answer is that it is still too soon to know. Enrollment of new first-year students traditionally stabilizes in the first three weeks of May. We are monitoring tuition and room-and-board deposits on a daily basis. Also, transfer student enrollment traditionally does not stabilize until later in the summer.

Compounding this uncertainty is that the regulations governing the implementation of the Governor's program have not yet been written; they are due to be released on May 25. No one knows how the regulations will influence students as they make final choices about which college to attend.

While I believe it is fair to say that the Cabinet is concerned about how enrollment is shaping up, we remain cautiously optimistic that we will not experience a precipitous drop. It is entirely possible, however, that we will experience a shortfall. We will continue to monitor developments and take every action possible to secure our enrollment for the next academic year.

I want to personally thank everyone who participated in Daemen's first annual Day of Giving campaign. The College received more than \$30,000 from nearly 200 donors in a 24-hour period. The average gift was over \$165 per donor. Your generosity is a good indication that the College's first comprehensive fund raising campaign, which begins in September, will be a great success.

Finally, as reported in the *Voice*, Daemen Trustee Robert Chur will serve as the speaker at this year's graduate Commencement ceremony. The speaker originally scheduled for the undergraduate ceremony is unable to attend. I am delighted to report that Congressman Brian Higgins will serve as this year's speaker.

I hope your semester ends smoothly, and I look forward to seeing you at Commencement.

Cordially,

Gary A. Olson
President