

September 2, 2025

Daemen University Faculty and Staff

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you had a restful and productive summer and are looking forward to another exciting academic year. I am writing with a few updates.

Although higher education has entered the four-year period often referred to as the "enrollment cliff," during which there will be 400,000 fewer college-age students, I am pleased to say that Daemen is continuing to stay ahead of our challenges. We are beginning the new academic year with a strong enrollment, and this year's graduate enrollment is continuing to grow both at the Amherst campus and at our Brooklyn campus. While we still have many challenges to face, this is a very propitious beginning to the new year. I will provide a more detailed report to you at the Fall State of the University on October 10.

I am delighted to announce that Daemen Hall, the former MusicalFare (let's refer to it from now on by its real name!), is now back as part of the campus after thirty years housing a local nonprofit organization. This summer we renovated substantial parts of the first floor. Two areas are now available for use: the bistro (to be used for events) and the auditorium (to be used for large classes and speaker events). You can see this new space at an open house on Tuesday, September 16 from 1:30 to 3:00. We encourage all faculty and staff to stop by to see the space, enjoy light refreshments, and connect with colleagues.

Another opening that sparked much excitement throughout the community and Daemen University is Royal Park, Daemen's first-ever home athletics facility. All Daemen home games for men's and women's soccer, tennis and women's lacrosse will be held at Royal Park starting this fall. I hope you will consider joining us for our first game ever at a true home facility on September 5. Our women's soccer team will play Assumption University.

Finally, please join us for Daemen's annual Founders Celebration—a special tradition that honors our origins, commemorates our rich history of scholarship, and continues our forward momentum. From the Founders Day Bell Ringing on Thursday, September 25 to the Scholarship Gala on Friday, September 26, there are many exciting festivities. I hope to see you at some of these special events.

This year promises to be one of excitement and continued momentum. I look forward to seeing you in early September at the various events around campus and in October at the State of the University.

Cordially,

Gary A. Olson President

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