

Office of the President

March 17, 2022

Daemen College Students, Faculty and Staff

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to report exciting news for the college. At their meeting on Tuesday, the New York State Education Department Board of Regents approved an amendment to Daemen's charter to make the institution a university under the state's recently revised definition, effective immediately.

We are proud finally to be able to call ourselves what we have been for some time—a university. In every sense except in name, Daemen has been a university for many years, and I can't think of a better way to demonstrate the growth and sophistication of Daemen than by reaching this major milestone during our 75th anniversary year.

As you know, we are recognized by the State of New York as a multi-campus university based in Amherst, with a branch in Brooklyn. In 2018, the prestigious Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education elevated Daemen to its highest tier: doctoral universities, making the institution one of only three in the region to earn this national designation. And the college now offers 57 baccalaureate, 31 masters, and 4 doctoral programs. Clearly, the formal designation of "university" is appropriate.

I am pleased to say that Daemen is among the first educational institutions in the state to successfully petition to become a university under the new rules. I want to thank everyone for your support as we worked to encourage the State to change its definition. In fact, you may be interested to know that the Daemen community sent in the second highest number of letters of support to the State.

We plan to hold a campus-wide celebration directly following our Spring State of the University address on Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. I hope you all can attend to celebrate this milestone for Daemen.

Cordially,

Lay A. Olson Gary A. Olson

President