Hello Lafayette Families,

Welcome to the Class of 2025 and our rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors! After the roller coaster of the 2020-21 academic year, it’s an absolute pleasure to be looking forward to a less turbulent year ahead. As I compose this greeting in May to prepare for publication, it seems prudent to at least mention the possibility of “unknowns” in the months ahead, but with so many lessons learned last year and with the vaccine already being widely available, let us hope that the pandemic’s downward trend continues.

New Leopards and their families are joining a community of learners, educators, staff, alumni, and families who all work in concert to support students as they learn and grow throughout their Lafayette experience. We are excited to work together to provide your students with resources and support. Please utilize families.lafayette.edu as your prime resource for supporting your students with all things Lafayette. This is specifically designed with YOU in mind, to provide a central location for links to resources across campus, all gathered for supporting your students with all things Lafayette. This is continuously running outdoor farmers market—and situated on the banks of the Delaware and Lehigh rivers, Easton is a historic city. It’s one of three places where the Declaration of Independence was first read aloud. Easton Main Street Initiative (EMSI) and the non-profit Greater Easton Development Partnership (GEDP) plan a number of festivals and events throughout the year on the banks of the Delaware and Lehigh rivers, Easton is a historic city. It’s one of three places where the Declaration of Independence was first read aloud. Easton Main Street Initiative (EMSI) and the non-profit Greater Easton Development Partnership (GEDP) plan a number of festivals and events throughout the year.

Visit eastonmainstreet.org to learn about the city’s history and buy a Downtown Easton gift card for your student to use at more than 40 restaurants and attractions (even parking meters)

Visit shopdowntowneaston.com/explore to find the tour that’s right for you.

Get to know your student’s home away from home for the next four years. Home to Easton Farmers’ Market—America’s oldest, continuously running outdoor farmers market—and situated on the banks of the Delaware and Lehigh rivers, Easton is a historic city. It’s one of three places where the Declaration of Independence was first read aloud. Easton Main Street Initiative (EMSI) and the non-profit Greater Easton Development Partnership (GEDP) plan a number of festivals and events throughout the year.

On a personal note, as the pandemic necessitated working exclusively from home, it also provided an opportunity to relocate earlier this year. With the incredible support of my colleagues at the College, I continued in my role from Sacramento, California... hopefully seamlessly! Being closer to my family here has been a gift I’m so grateful for, all while being able to continue to serve the families of Lafayette College. I’ll be returning to campus regularly, so hope to meet new families and greet returning families in person this fall.

I hope you find this mailing and these resources useful. We look forward to working together as a community to help your students navigate their way at Lafayette so they may succeed.

Amy Blythe, Director of Parent and Family Relations parents@lafayette.edu 610-330-5040
Meet Lafayette’s New President

On May 19, Lafayette announced that Nicole Hurd, Ph.D., will become the College’s 18th president. Hurd is the founding CEO of College Advising Corp., the nation’s largest college access program. She also previously led efforts at the University of Virginia, an M.A. in liberal studies graduate of the college. Her family includes husband Bill, children Monica (a student at Notre Dame), and two retrievers Sunshine and Sadie.

Hurd holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from University of Virginia, an M.A. in liberal studies from Georgetown University, and a B.A. in history from University of Notre Dame. Her family includes husband Bill, children Monica (a student at University of Virginia) and Matthew (who will be a first-year student this fall at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), and golden retrievers Sunshine and Sadie.

Hurd begins her new role on July 1. To learn more visit www.lafayette.edu/new-president.

Greetings from the Gateway Program

Regardless of physical location, Gateway is here for you. To complement our on-campus resources, Gateway will offer a range of opportunities during fall 2021, such as one-on-one counseling, the Career Fair, workshops, and other programs.

Gateway, Lafayette’s four-year career-development program, is designed for students at all stages of career exploration. It provides personalized support, resources, and guidance.

Learn how you can support your student’s involvement with Gateway by visiting the Student and Families page at gateway.lafayette.edu.

Gateway Parent Partnerships

Does your organization offer opportunities for college students and/or recent graduates? You can help to increase career connections for Lafayette students by sharing contacts at your organization. Please complete our online form gateway.lafayette.edu/pardprofessionals or contact us using the information above.

Interested in staying up to date with Gateway Career Center news? Please email us at careers@lafayette.edu to join our Gateway Weekly e-newsletter mailing list.

The Office of Advising and Co-Curricular Programs

This Office of Advising and Co-Curricular Programs is an important academic resource for students. The office’s vision is simple yet impactful, to guide Lafayette students to thrive and enhance their educational journey. When visiting Scott Hall, students can utilize an array of resources including, but not limited to, general advising and academic coaching, scholarship/fellowship assistance, and health professions advising. We also have a very successful Lafayette Forensics Team (speech, debate, and mock trial) as part of our office. We invite all students to familiarize themselves with Scott Hall by visiting advising.lafayette.edu and you can view our full staff here: advising.lafayette.edu/staff

Academic Resource Hub

“The Hub” provides students academic services to enhance student access and success. There are services to support students with disabilities, student-athletes, English for Academic Purpose (EAP), and academic enrichment and support resources. Encourage your student to connect with the outstanding team at The Hub:hub.lafayette.edu

Sustainable Campus

Lafayette College is committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2035, integrating sustainability into the curriculum, and cultivating creative solutions to ensure a more just and verdant future. Our unique blend of liberal arts education and engineering makes us enormously well-positioned to lead in this arena. Aligning our values with the student experience is crucial in demonstrating our principles in action. Exploring sustainable living on campus provides students for a lifetime of environmental citizenship. Students, faculty, and staff interact with components like LEED-certified buildings and the College farm that make the Lafayette campus a living laboratory. Connect with the Office of Sustainability to learn more about opportunities for internships, volunteering, student engagement efforts, and project support: sustainability.lafayette.edu

Green Move In

During move in, visit the Green Move In stations around campus to recycle your cardboard, plastic bags, styrofoam, and other items used while moving. Last year we recycled over 4 tons of cardboard during Green Move In. More info: sustainability.lafayette.edu/events/green-move-in

Summer Welcome Events

Each summer in mid- to late-July through early-August, Lafayette College offers regional receptions to welcome the incoming class of students and their families to the Leopard family. For summer 2021, we will be looking at your local COVID regulations and working with our alumni and parent hosts to decide if each event will be in person, virtual, or a hybrid. All Lafayette students and families are encouraged to attend a Summer Welcome Event. This is a wonderful way for incoming students and families to meet other Leopards near your home or at any of the locations; engage with each other, share experiences, make connections, reach out with questions or ideas, and build YOUR Lafayette community. Scheduled events and registration can be found on Leopard Link (bit.ly/leopardlink). Check this site regularly in the weeks ahead as we add and update locations.

Families are encouraged to attend events coordinated by the Office of Alumni Relations, so please bookmark Leopard Link and take advantage of all the wonderful opportunities to meet, connect with, and enjoy being a Leopard family!

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