May 2021

Dear Carleton Parents and Families,

Welcome to the Carleton community! As a member, you play an important role, and we are eager to work with you as your student transitions to Northfield. This mailing is the last paper mailing you should receive this summer.

New Student Week (orientation) is scheduled to begin on September 9, 2021. Check go.carleton.edu/newparents later this summer for the parent orientation schedule.

I also urge you to review the Family Guide we have prepared in conjunction with our Parents Advisory Council, which is also posted on the same webpage. This Guide contains important information that is often new to parents and families, including student privacy rights, parental notification, and college policies. At Carleton we work with students as adults, and want to help you know what you can expect as your student transitions into our community.

I would like to invite you to join a Zoom webinar for new parents and families with myself and Art Rodriguez ’96, VP and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, on June 14, 2021, at 6 pm CDT (7pm EDT/4pm PDT) to share information and respond to any questions you might have about Carleton, the student experience, and the College’s preparation for and handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. You will receive an email invitation to this webinar at the end of May, which will include a link to register (remember to confirm your contact information at go.carleton.edu/newparents!).

My colleagues and I look forward to helping your student develop and grow over the next four years. Thank you for trusting us to do so. If you are ever unsure about whether or not to call someone at the College to discuss a concern, please do not hesitate to pick up the phone.

Let’s join together in making these next four years truly transformative!

All the best,

Carolyn H. Livingston, Ph.D.
Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students
May 2021

Dear Carleton College Parents,

We are delighted to welcome you and your student to Carleton College’s Class of 2025. We’re writing to introduce ourselves and to share a few ways you can connect with the Carleton College community. We are the current chairs of the Parents Advisory Council, a group of parents who volunteer their time to advise the college and serve as a resource to other parents. We know what a leap of faith it is for you and your students to have chosen Carleton in these unusual circumstances where many of you have not had the chance to visit. We hope that we can make it as easy as possible for you to connect and to find the information you need.

First, we hope you’ll start to familiarize yourself with the Parent/Family Gateway at go.carleton.edu/parents. The Gateway is a great place to begin when you have questions, as the website includes links to many of the key campus offices that you or your student will need. There are also links to important campus updates and calendars, parent newsletters, webinars, and more.

On the Gateway you will also see a link to the Family Guide, under “Information and Policies.” We encourage all first-time parents/guardians of college students to review this guide, particularly the section titled “Advice for Parents,” which contains tips on what to expect developmentally as your student progresses through Carleton. Please pay special attention to the student privacy rights and parental notification section. The college is limited in what can be shared with parents and families about their students, so we encourage you to have thoughtful conversations with your student regarding mutual expectations for connection and updates about how they are doing.

Through the Gateway, you also have access to the Family Directory (under “Parent Services”), which includes a geographical listing of parents/guardians, the names and classes of their students, and contact information. We hope you will find this information helpful in identifying other Carleton families in your area with whom you can share information, insights, and interests. The updated directory can be accessed after July 1 with username parents and password knights2021.

Although the directory information about parents is considered “public information” within the Carleton community, we respect everyone’s desire for privacy. Should you wish to update and/or exclude your information from the online directory, please go to: apps.carleton.edu/parents/update.

If you’d like to connect with fellow parents/guardians by email or online:
  - Join the parent-to-parent email group at apps.carleton.edu/parents/list
  - Ask to join the private and unofficial Carleton College Parents Group on Facebook

We are confident you will find Carleton to be an academically rigorous and supportive environment for your student. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of the Dean of Students at (507) 222-4075 or reach out to Joe Baggot, Class Dean for First-Year Students at jbaggot@carleton.edu.

Sincerely,

Karen Handelman & Marc Hirshman, Co-Chairs
Carleton College Parents Advisory Council
Parents of Abby Hirshman ’20 and Emily Hirshman ’23