



September 6, 2016

Dear Hartwick College Graduate,

Warm greetings from Oyaron Hill.

The first week of class in the new academic year is now behind us, and campus has buzzed with activity over Labor Day weekend. There really is nothing quite so enlivening and filled with promise as the beginning of a new year of learning.

Our Newest Students. The size of our first year class has exceeded our expectations. Due to the fine work of our campus community, led by our VP for Enrollment Management Karen McGrath, applications increased by 17% for fall 2016 admission, following a 38% year-to-year increase in prospective students' visits to campus. Though we must wait until the official census date later this month for a final count of new and returning students, it is clear that **we will ultimately exceed our new student budget target by 30-40+ enrollees. This is a great result**, especially in light of our smaller than expected class in fall 2015, and we hope to continue our progress toward an overall enrollment of about 1,500 over the next few years. Interest in the study of nursing, business, and the sciences in particular continues to grow, as does interest in the social and behavioral sciences. Experience tells us that many students will discover their passion for art, music, and the other humanities after they are exposed to them at Hartwick. Our faculty are continuing their exploration of how to engage and inspire Generation Z – a generation that is more racially diverse, more technology literate, and more activist than any generation before it. Graduates of the 1960s and 1970s, in particular, will take note that researchers claim that GEN Z has more activist inclinations than students of the 1960s.

New Programs in the Wings. In May, the Board of Trustees voted to approve my recommendation to offer **five new undergraduate majors** that had been approved by the faculty: Actuarial Mathematics; Criminal Justice; Environment, Sustainability, & Society; Global Studies; and Music Performance. As a result, we have sent application for approval of four of

these five offerings to the NYS Education Department. The Trustees also gave their conditional support for the following **three additional new majors, pending the development of final proposals** pending a final recommendation by the College: Creative Writing, Media Studies, and Public Health.

Also, the Board approved the elimination of the Information Science major. This was made possible by the creative work of the Computer Science (CS) faculty who substantially redesigned the CS major to integrate important features of the former Information Science major. The number of math courses required to pursue the CS major has been reduced because the faculty believed that the extensive requirements for study in mathematics were a perennial barrier to the pursuit of the Computer Science major.

Watch future editions of *The Wick* magazine for updates on our program expansion activities.

Student Organizations. The number of student accomplishments, both in and out of the classroom are **too numerous to detail here!** You will be proud to know that Hartwick's Mu Delta Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national Political Science honor society, was one of three chapters nationwide from schools with enrollments of under 5,000 to receive a Best Chapter Award. This is the fifth time in the past 17 years that the Hartwick chapter has been recognized as a Best Chapter, an accomplishment that is a credit to our students and their faculty advisors. In addition, the newest fraternity to be recognized by the College – Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Tau-Phi Chapter – won the Founders' Award for Chapter Excellence for First Year Chapters at the fraternity's annual Leadership Conference. In addition, our students participated in Alternative Spring Break service trips to Louisiana, North Carolina, and the Dominican Republic; field hockey celebrated its 50th year; men's basketball, soccer, and swimming advanced to the NCAA tournaments; and the equestrian program made it to Zone finals. Student academic work continues to be truly impressive as evidenced by our newest group of six John Christopher Hartwick Scholars and the list of Freedman Prize award winners.

The Hartwick College Center for Craft Food & Beverage. Though officially opened in January 2016, the Hartwick College Center for Craft Food & Beverage (CCFB) has celebrated the one-year anniversary of the appointment of its director, Aaron MacLeod. The only center of its kind in the state and the region, the Hartwick College CCFB provides an important connection for craft brewers to the science and education that they need to produce a beverage of high and consistent quality. Our students conduct testing and research on various properties of the ingredients used by brewers, including hops, and these experiences help them to prepare for careers that are available to them in this region. **To date, we have attracted more than \$1 million in external grant and government support for CCFB operations.** We hope to expand testing to other grains soon, as well as introduce consulting services in marketing and business planning. This past Friday, the Otsego County **Chamber of Commerce announced its selection of Hartwick's CCFB for the Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield Breakthrough Business of the Year award.** This award is a meaningful complement to being named **Partner of the Year by Otsego Now**, which serves as the hub for economic progress for Otsego County, New York. Otsego Now cited Hartwick's "increasing role as an advocate and partner in driving economic growth in

Oneonta and the county” as the reason for our selection. After 219 years, Hartwick is continuing to explore new ways to fulfill the promise of our mission to inspire curiosity, creativity, critical thinking, personal courage, and an enduring passion for learning.

Do you have an idea about an innovation that would advance the College in its role as an education leader? You may have read in *The Wick* that the Board of Trustees has created an ad hoc Committee on Strategic Innovation. The Committee charge is “to solicit, consider and evaluate initiatives designed to ensure a sustainable and vibrant college community and to provide support and guidance to the College administration and the Board regarding innovation and the implementation of innovation initiatives at the College.” Its principal goal is to identify viable and sustainable alternative revenue streams to support the College’s long term operation. If you have thoughts about innovative ideas that you think would benefit the College, please submit them to strategicinnovationcommittee@hartwick.edu.

Campus Capital Improvements. We continue our work to complete **renovations and new buildings funded through our successful comprehensive fundraising campaign and through the use of series 215A bond funds.** An indoor climbing wall and new ropes course were installed at Pine Lake, and significant improvements have been made to several cabins and the Lodge. On campus, we opened a new Contemplation Room in Shineman, the first space in many years to be dedicated to contemplation and spiritual reflection. The Shineman Celebration Room has been renovated to provide a more welcoming space for groups and classes – I hope that you will see these spaces personally when you join us for the Memorial Gathering scheduled during True Blue Weekend on October 2.

Among other recent improvements: the bookstore in Dewar has been renovated, Anderson Center for the Arts renovations are complete, Binder Athletic Center locker and team room and pool renovations are complete, and:

- New LED street and building lighting has been installed in many locations;
- Loading dock relocation and the installation of both an elevator and a pedestrian bridge adjacent to Dewar is underway;
- Smith Hall, Leitzell Hall, and the Townhouses have been refurbished and air conditioned, with new furniture throughout;
- Digital environmental controls that will increase energy cost savings have been installed in numerous locations;
- Rare book humidification systems have been installed in Yager Hall;
- Three labs in Johnstone Science Center are now air conditioned;
- New flooring was laid in classrooms and corridors in Clark Hall; and
- Dewar Hall has a new metal roof that complements others on surrounding buildings.

Importantly, the old Pole Barn has been razed and foundational work for a new suite-style residence hall that will accommodate more than 70 students is underway. **We plan to bring this newest residence hall – which helps to address a shortage of on-campus housing – online in the fall of 2017.**

Campaign Success! *The Campaign for Hartwick Students: It's Personal* has concluded above goal and **ended as a record-setting \$34.7+ million!** This makes *The Campaign for Hartwick Students: It's Personal* the largest fundraising campaign, over any length of time, in the College's 219-year history. What is best about this success is that every objective within *The Campaign* was chosen because it would directly impact the student experience. We chose capital projects to improve all aspects of campus life, endowment funds to increase the support of our students by making Hartwick more affordable and more accessible, opportunity funds to advance special living and learning experiences, and annual giving to ensure that we could deliver on all of our promises. Because of the generosity of so many, Hartwick College is a stronger, more competitive, more supportive, more welcoming, and more accessible place for students to discover the wonder of their future.

More than 4,248 alumni donated to this Campaign. If you were among them, please accept my thanks on behalf of our students. Our colleagues in College Advancement are busy planning events, both on campus and off, to celebrate the success of this breakthrough *Campaign*.

I hope that you have enjoyed this update. **As always, thank you for your support of Hartwick College.** I look forward to seeing you at True Blue Weekend September 30 – October 2.

Best,

Dr. Margaret L. Drugovich P'12
President