



Dean's Newsletter

Fall 2019

Greetings from Dean White

Welcome to the start of the 2019-20 academic year! My hope is that as you continue to pursue your educational goals, this will be your best year yet. May it be a year of continued self-discovery as you consider your own personal strengths and talents, and how they align with the academic disciplines you are studying here at Hood. Be courageous! Step out of your comfort zone, both in and outside of the classroom. Our horizons tend to broaden most when we are willing to entertain the grey areas of life – the uncertainties, the different perspectives and the challenging questions that cause us to think about who we are and what we believe.

This newsletter provides important information about expectations, programs and improvements that were made in support of our strategic goals. My hope is that you will take advantage of the programs and activities that are of interest.

Warmly,

Olivia G. White, Ph.D.

Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

An exciting and vibrant campus! With nearly 450 new students joining our returning students, the campus will be in full swing. As you settle into your fall course schedule and academic responsibilities, you will have plenty of opportunities to balance that workload with some fun and fitness.

From exciting Whit Wednesdays to weekend activities, and whether you choose to shoot hoops or play volleyball during open gym in Gambrill, take part in recreational activities on the quad and at the Whitaker patio, walk the path around Culler Lake in Baker Park, participate in organized activities, volunteer at one of the nonprofits downtown, show your Blazer pride at athletic competitions, join clubs and organizations – there are always things to do, things to explore and things to enjoy on and around our campus.

To stay up to date and in the know, remember to watch your email for ***This Week at Hood***, published weekly by the Office of Student Engagement. Also be sure to review the [2019-2020 Academic Calendar](#) and the [Campus Calendar](#) on a regular basis.

CONVOCATION



Join Hood faculty and staff in welcoming new students at Convocation, the official start of the academic year, Sunday, Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Hodson Outdoor Theatre. President Andrea Chapdelaine along with Christian Hoch '20, SGA president, and Professor of Art and Archaeology Jenni Ross will offer remarks and extend a warm welcome to new students, family members and friends. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m. in Coblentz Dining Hall, where the start-of-year t-shirts will be distributed.

PLAN FOR A SUCCESSFUL SEMESTER!

Please stop in the student success office located in Rosenstock Hall, CAAR Suite 330, to help plan for a successful semester! Talk with staff about managing your time, how to study, when to study, academic resources and much more. Pick up a free planner, while supplies last! For more information and resources, be sure to visit [Student Success](#).

CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT

A Student Employment Job fair is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 5, from 12:30 – 2 p.m. The job fair provides students the opportunity to talk with supervisors from various campus departments concerning available employment opportunities. All students are invited to the job fair, but those who have been awarded Federal Work Study or Campus Employment as part of their financial award package have priority in the hiring process.

Students offered campus jobs are required to complete various employment forms (I-9, W-4 and MW 507). To complete these forms, students must bring the following documents to the Office of Financial Aid: a valid driver's license or Hood ID card and your Social Security Card, U.S. Passport, or your Birth Certificate. If students cannot provide any of these documents, please contact the Office of Financial Aid for a list of alternative documents.

ARE YOU GAME?

Student gaming equipment has been moved to Whitaker Student Center (2nd floor) for 24/7 access to multiple TVs and gaming systems, and games for personal and tournament play.

Hood athletics will launch the first ever esports team this fall. Blazer esports plan to compete in the National Association of Collegiate Esports (NACE), the country's most prominent organization dedicated to competitive collegiate video gaming. Students interested in competitive gaming should contact Coach Chris Leonard at leonard@hood.edu. Teams will practice and compete in the newly designed Esports Arena on the lower level of Coblentz Hall.

HOMECOMING/FALL FAMILY WEEKEND 2019



"Welcome Home to Hood" is the theme of Homecoming/Fall Family Weekend 2019, September 27-29. Three exciting days of activities for everyone including '80s cover band *Guys in Thin Ties* and food trucks on Friday evening, athletic events, a fall family festival and a silent disco on Saturday night, and alumni games on Sunday. Invite your whole family and tell them to arrive on Friday and stay for the whole weekend!

IN FITNESS AND IN HEALTH

Fitness Center Updates

In response to student feedback, the equipment in the Fitness Center has been updated to include two new Olympic weightlifting racks, bumper plates, a landmine attachment, a heavy rope, stretching mats, box jump and kettlebells. Erika Moyer, strength and conditioning coach and director of physical education, will be available to work with students who are interested in strength and conditioning.



Smoke- and Tobacco-free Campus

As part of a continuing effort to improve the health and well-being of the College community, Hood became a smoke- and tobacco-free campus, effective August 1. This policy applies not only to smoking substances, but also the use of all electronic cigarettes and any form on tobacco anywhere on campus.

The initiative, led by Jorden Hahn '19 and Teresa Cevallos, director of wellness, promotes the health and welfare of community members and visitors to campus, enables non-smokers to breathe fresh air, and encourage a healthier, more productive living and learning environment. The minimum sales age for all tobacco products will change to 21 in the state of Maryland state, effective October 1.



CARE (Campus Awareness, Response and Education) Project

The CARE Project is a special initiative designed to equip all students with skills to enjoy healthy, safe relationships and positive sexual experiences and to access help for concerns of dating violence and

sexual assault. Join CARE and the student organization, SPARC (Student-led Peer Advocacy for Healthy Relationships and Consent) September 11 for their first event of the year, F.R.I.E.S., a fun (and delicious) opportunity to learn about what consent looks like! For more information about the CARE Project or SPARC, email Nina Carr, CARE project coordinator at carrn@hood.edu.



Hood Goes PURPLE

September is National Recovery Month, and Hood College is taking part in [Frederick County Goes Purple](#). While doing your back to school shopping, pick up something purple (t-shirt, socks, shoelaces, etc.). As the College supports this grassroots, community-wide initiative, we will be wearing PURPLE to heighten awareness about the Opioid Epidemic and to show that we stand in solidarity with those fighting addiction on the front lines.

FROM RENOVATIONS TO NEW CONSTRUCTION

Library Renovation

Hood College is excited to announce a significant library renovation, which is scheduled to begin following the fall 2019 semester. Our goal is to create new spaces for the consolidation of student services in the form of a “learning commons.” Once opened, the learning commons will house the Center for Academic Achievement and Retention (CAAR), along with tutoring services, the Writing Center, Student Success staff, and Accessibility Services. In addition, information technology resources will also be housed in the learning commons, alongside our entire library staff. The new

space itself will include a café and coffee shop, along with a significant number of small group and individual study rooms.

New Pole Vault & Discus Facilities

Installation of the new pole vault and discus facilities is underway. This on-campus location between the turf and softball fields will provide ready access and additional practice time to student-athletes balancing demanding academic, athletic and personal schedules.



New Residence Hall Construction

Construction of the new residence hall began in June with the demolition of the Marx Center. Since then, the contractor has been busy preparing the site, installing underground utilities, and setting the foundation. Within the next couple of weeks, the building will begin to take shape as the exterior walls are constructed. [Watch the construction progress on our webcam!](#)

The new residence hall remains on schedule to open in August 2020, and will house approximately 200 students in suite and semi-suite rooms. We will ask students in the fall to assist in selecting furniture for the building.

Parking

Please note parking on the east side of the campus will be impacted during construction of the new residence hall. Parking lots between the Observatory and the rear of Coffman Chapel will be closed temporarily. A new temporary parking lot between Carson Cottage and Strawn Cottage has been constructed to give additional parking during the construction project. Parking citations will not be issued during the first two weeks of classes. An assessment of campus parking will be conducted in September.



Coblenz Hall Improvements

Over the summer, Coblenz Hall was refurbished. The exterior and interior of the building were painted, new LED lights were installed in the lobbies, hallways and bedrooms, and repairs were made to the slate roof. In addition, the network wiring was upgraded to increase bandwidth and improve internet response times, additional wireless access points were installed, large screen televisions were mounted in the second and third floor lobbies, and additional furniture was purchased for the common areas.

Mailroom Relocated

Over the summer, the post office and mail services moved to the duplicating shop in the back of Gambrill. Directional signage has been installed in and around Gambrill to guide everyone to the post office. You will be notified via email when you receive a package, as well as any envelope mail. Hours for the mail room in Gambrill have been expanded to 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Your mailing address will be:

[your name]
c/o Hood College
401 Rosemont Ave
Frederick MD 21701



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