



[Pre-College Programs](#) [Professional & Continuing Education](#) [Osher Lifelong Learning](#)

Dear Colleagues:

This is an exciting time for University College as we reflect upon the achievements over the last 4-and-a-half years since our founding by the Trustees in November 2018, launch into our busy summer season, and with our fantastic new dean Denise Bates starting July 1.

UC's Foundational Vision still guides all our activities: expanding access to the university by creatively catalyzing resources university-wide to produce high quality academic programs that reach and meet the needs of any student, wherever they are in their learning journey. It is gratifying to see the broad acceptance of this *Tufts for Life* vision and the idea that a Tufts education does not need to start or end with our formal degree programs, but should be a continuum where learners of any age find opportunities to explore areas of interest and new skills in more flexible ways.

UC's Scope: over the past year we reached nearly 6000 students through across our units:

- Tufts Pre-College Programs, with 18 programs created in partnerships across the university, will enroll more than 1700 students this summer
- Tufts Professional and Custom Education, with year-round offerings through Courses at Tufts, Summer Session, Winter Term, and SMFA CE, serves thousands of matriculated and non-matriculated undergrads, grads, and working professionals
- Tufts Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, with its more than 750 members, operates year-round, with both in-person and virtual study groups, lectures, and special events

UC's Collaborations: Our programs engage faculty from across the university who open their courses to new student populations, help develop new offerings, and give guest lectures, create research opportunities, and share their expertise. All our activities are overseen by the University College Faculty, our governance board with representatives from every school, who ensure that our efforts build on and extend the vision and values of Tufts. In collaboration with staff and offices across the schools and the central administration, UC has also made important contributions by helping build new systems, processes, and the cultural foundations for university wide programmatic collaborations, including shared marketing efforts and a user-friendly enrollment platform, and new tools for financial and enrollment data tracking.

Expanding Access: Along with the significant revenues UC generated for our school partners and the central administration, we are excited to continue to expand UC's ability to move the needle on measures of our social impact based on our ability to increase structural access to the strengths of a Tufts education to diverse new populations of students. Thanks to efforts by University Advancement and Corporate and Foundation Relations, we are thrilled to have been awarded a significant grant from the Cummings Foundation, with matching DEIJ funds from the Provost, to launch a partnership with Minds Matter Boston to bring their entire high school sophomore cohort of 60+ students each summer to take part in our pre-college offerings. Our pre-college team continues to develop philanthropic resources for financial aid to remove barriers to participate in our transformative programs.

In Gratitude: As this is my last Newsletter as Dean, I want to thank all those faculty, staff, and students from across Tufts whose support has made it possible for UC to come so far so quickly. I am especially grateful to President Monaco, Provost Caroline Genco, and Executive Vice President Michael Howard for being such strong advocates for the school and its important role in the future of Tufts.

Our collaborative structure only works through partnerships with the Vice Provosts, all the Deans and EADs and their teams, academic departments and faculty committees, and with Advancement, Operations, Public Safety, Conference and Events, Dining, the Budget Center, HR, the I-Center, UCM, the office of University Counsel, OEO, and all the offices of Government and Community Relations.

My special thanks go to Karen Mulder, UC's founding EAD and Executive Director of the Office of University Strategy and Program Development, whose leadership has been crucial to the envisioning of the new school and its launch, including building the systems and processes necessary to realize UC's mission and unique ways of working collaboratively with all the other schools. Vice Provost Kevin Dunn also played a central role in developing the school's bylaws and effective faculty governance model.

We are so grateful to the everyone who participated in the successful search for our new Dean, including co-chairs Dean Kyongbum Lee and Executive Vice Dean Tom Malone, the members of the search committee, and everyone in the Provost's Office, especially Kara Charmanski.

Finally, I am deeply appreciative to the outstanding University College team who have worked collaboratively, creatively, and with deep commitment to the goals of the school and of Tufts. Everyone is looking forward to working with Dean Denise Bates in her efforts to continue to realize the exciting potential of University College.

**Joseph Auner, Austin Fletcher Professor of Music
Founding Dean of University College**



Welcome to University College

University College, instituted at Tufts University in 2018, supports a student's education at any of the multiple points along their journey.

High School Students

Visiting Students

Professional Adult Learners

Lifelong Learners

For more information on University College's programs, visit us at universitycollege.tufts.edu

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