

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE



Springfield College **CONNECT**

News and Happenings from Alden Street

Volume 1, Issue 5 • July 27, 2020

This newsletter serves as a communication tool for our students, their families, and our campus community to stay informed. This is an important information platform for Springfield College to periodically share and exchange plans so that, together, we emerge strongly from the COVID-19 crisis.

Amid Disruptions, Our Core Values Remain

This has been a summer, indeed, and a year of disruption and change.

Since May, we have been witness to, and joined in support of, nationwide outcries against the systematic violence and oppression of Black America. For many, the social movements and unrest have been a wake-up call, long overdue, to the injustices woven into our history as a country. For others, long aware of that history through their own experiences, this is a time for the country to pay its debts and fulfill its obligations as written into the foundational texts and sacred writings of this country—a refusal—in the words of Dr. King, despite centuries of evidence, to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt.

Springfield College remains committed to being part of the change. We hope you have been able to join us for our Campus Conversations on Race throughout the summer. These discussions form the foundation for a year where we at Springfield College affirm that “Silence is not an option.” As part of that focus, we remind you that there is still time to join the Division of Student Affairs in our summer reading and discussion of Ibram X. Kendi’s *How to be an Antiracist*. Students, if you order the book, submit your receipt to the Office of Student Affairs and the cost will be reimbursed. Discussion times to be announced.

Since March, we have been struggling with the challenges of a global pandemic that have changed the way we live, work, and pursue education. This has placed great demands on the patience and resiliency of our community, especially of our students. We want to commend you for your work these past months through the constant change and endless Zoom calls.

As we move forward to the fall and your return to campus, we want to remind you that our continued success in this effort depends on you. As a College, we are

making every effort to ensure the safety of our students and of our campus and community members. You recently received a detailed list of the safety measures we are taking as a campus along with a community agreement outlining the expectations we have for one another. We urge you to read through these to better prepare yourself for return to campus. What we do know is that this fall will be unlike any opening we have experienced, and we need the support of all members of the Springfield College community to be safer and to move forward.

There are few things that we can count on as this pandemic continues to unfold.

We can count on the fact that life, school, and “business as usual” will be disrupted. We will all be tested and asked to step up to do our part. There will be new expectations, policies, and procedures that we will communicate to you as we near opening. You will be receiving a detailed list of the safety measures we are taking as a campus. You also will be informed by the Division of Student Affairs staff what our community expectations are for one another. We urge you to read through these to better prepare yourself for return to campus.

More importantly, we can count on our students. You chose Springfield College because you value the community and our Humanics philosophy. You chose Springfield because you care—about yourselves, about the individuals and communities you love, and about service to others. We have seen this as students seek to get back to service, to student teaching, to working in health care, even with all the challenges of the moment. We ask that you keep that care and concern, for others and for the values we hold dear, at the forefront of your mind as we move forward.

It has been a year of disruption, and there can be no return to “normal.” Regarding race, that “normal” was broken and unjust. Regarding health and safety, we are in new territory. Yet amid the disruption, we affirm our core values of holistic wellness and service to others. Only together can we realize those values and make our ideals real. We look forward to continuing this work with you.

Sue Nowlan
Dean of Students

David McMahon
Director of Spiritual Life

A promotional graphic for a virtual panel discussion. The left side features a black and white photo of two baseball players in Springfield College uniforms. The right side has a maroon background with white text. At the top, it says "Springfield College Boys of Baseball". Below this is a row of four headshots of alumni, each with their name and graduation year underneath. At the bottom right, it says "Virtual Panel Discussion".

Springfield College Boys of Baseball

			
Rob Bradford '92	Michael Cometa '11	Rob Crain '04	Matt Ferry '11

Virtual Panel Discussion

All-Star Alumni Lineup Talked All Things Baseball

Current students, alumni from seven different decades, and members of the incoming Class of 2024 took time on a recent summer evening to watch and participate in a virtual panel discussion featuring four Springfield College alumni working in professional baseball and other sports-related fields.

Catch up with the discussion that featured panelists discussing the state of Major League Baseball and the baseball and journalism industries, responding to participants' questions, and much more. The July 14 "Springfield College Boys of Baseball" event was moderated by Communications/Sports Journalism Assistant Professor **Kyle Belanger** and hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations.

Panel:

Rob Bradford '92, Site Editor, WEEI.com and Boston Red Sox Columnist

Michael Cometa '11, Manager, Season Ticket and Ticket Services, Boston Red Sox

Rob Crain '04, Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Pawtucket Red Sox and Founding Partner of Front Office Features Podcast

Matthew Ferry '11, Director, Baseball Operations, New York Yankees

We know you will find this entertaining and informative event a hit!



Get a Taste of Our Improvements to Dining on Campus

Staff of Harvest Table Culinary group are continually working to create a top-notch dining experience for our students and the Springfield College community. This summer, for example, the Harvest Table team has transformed the look

and functionality of the Table @ Cheney Hall and added many exciting features for all to enjoy.

These improvements include:

- 15 digital menu boards displaying nutritional and allergen information;
- Online menus to view in advance that include a filter to identify allergens and eliminate them from your menu options;
- New food stations to accompany a new recipe collection;
- An entire wall dedicated to collecting student feedback; and
- Painted walls, rustic farm tables, and new lighting around the dining hall.

We encourage you to **learn more about these exciting changes**.

Put Your Dancing Shoes on for Fall Fundraising Marathon

Our students continually live the Springfield College Humanics philosophy of leadership in service to others. That is what's behind plans to hold a dance marathon on campus in the late fall to raise

money for the B+ Foundation, which supports families impacted by childhood cancer.

Many of our student leaders, staff, and others are **currently working to develop plans** for the institution-wide fundraising and awareness event. President Mary-Beth A. Cooper has already committed to dancing for the cause.

Stay tuned for more details on the dance marathon. If you want to get involved, contact Class of 2021 student Julia McGourty, executive director of the Springfield College Dance Marathon, at jmcgourty@springfield.edu.

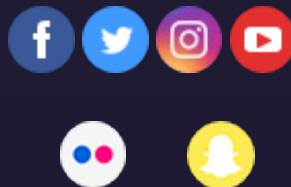


If you have questions or comments, please contact the Office of Student Affairs staff at studentaffairs@springfield.edu.

Join the Springfield community online.

Get an inside look at what life is really like at Springfield College.

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Springfield College is a smoke free/tobacco free campus.

Employment Opportunities

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