



Widener University

FAMILY CONNECTION



APRIL 2025

Dear Widener Families,

We are on the cusp of one of my favorite times of year: commencement season, where we celebrate our graduating students' accomplishments. These final weeks also highlight the growth we've seen in all students—academically, socially, and emotionally. It's a journey! My work in the Division of Student Engagement & Transformation includes onboarding and orienting new students while fostering strong relationships with their families and supporters throughout their entire time at Widener. We're in this together and share a common goal: your student's success. National studies show families want to hear from institutions, and Widener values empowering families and supporters with information so they feel part of the Pride, too.

Through outreach and interactions, I'd love to hear from you! What more does your family need? Have you struggled with administrative or academic processes? Is there a topic, event, or service you'd like to learn about? I welcome your feedback.

With Pride,



Austin L. Duckett, Ed.D.
Assistant Dean of Students
Office of Student Engagement
610-499-4411
studentengagement@widener.edu



WHAT'S NEW AT WIDENER



CULTURE, CONNECTIONS, ADVENTURE: STUDYING AWAY OFFERS IT ALL

Whether domestic or abroad, for a week or a semester, study away is an option for all Widener students, and through a new partnership, is more affordable and accessible than ever.

[LEARN MORE](#)



HIGH-IMPACT TUTORING: STRENGTHENING SKILLS, BUILDING CONNECTIONS, AND CREATING PURPOSE

Widener University's work-study tutoring program, which supports Chester fourth graders, has been recognized for expansion by the Partnership for Student Success, highlighting its impact on student learning and academic achievement.

[LEARN MORE](#)

'PRESIDENT FOR A DAY' SWAP GIVES NURSING STUDENT A TASTE OF LEADERSHIP

Nursing student Elizabeth Martin had a



unique leadership experience while swapping places with Widener President Stacey Robertson as “President for a Day,” and Robertson got to experience student life firsthand.

[LEARN MORE](#)



WELCOME TO WIDENER

Meet Our New University Leaders: Heather Meier and Audrey Snyder



Heather Meier

Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer



Audrey Snyder

Dean of the School of Nursing



STUDENT AND FAMILY RESOURCES

THIS SUPPORT SYSTEM IS THERE FOR STUDENTS 24/7

10 Reasons to Download the TELUS Health Student Support App

[LEARN MORE](#)

APP-SOLUTELY ESSENTIAL:

10 Reasons to Download the TELUS Health Student Support App



WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES OF 2025 GRADUATES



THURSDAY, MAY 1 • 6-7 P.M.

HAPPENING TOMORROW, 6-7 p.m.

Workshop for parents and families of 2025 graduates.

As you prepare to celebrate your student's huge accomplishment, you may also have questions about effective job-search strategies in today's complex hiring market. Join our Career Design and Development office in this special session for graduates' parents and families!

[LEARN MORE](#)



CELEBRATING WIDENER WINS



A TASTE OF SUCCESS: WIDENER CHEF RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

Matthew Clarke, executive chef at Widener, won first place at the Aramark Culinary Excellence, or ACE, competition for the mid-Atlantic region of Aramark Collegiate Hospitality.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Thank you to our Widener families who helped us ROAR4Widener this year!



Widener rugby Head Coach Andrew Burkhardt '12 talks about the sport, coaching, and motivating student athletes.

[**HEAR THE INTERVIEW**](#)



WIDENER IN THE NEWS



Maureen Coyle was interviewed for a [Yahoo! News](#) article about young adults practicing 'app-stinence' by cutting back on social media use on their smartphones.



[Delco Today](#) covers Widener University's AI Day, an event exploring the possibilities of AI.



Biomedical engineering student Akem Kpuyuf '26 authored a [Chester Spirit op-ed](#) on STEM workshops with local youth.



NOTABLE DATES

Helpful dates to keep you and your student informed

Friday, May 2 – Last day of spring semester classes.

Friday, May 2 – Late night breakfast tradition, 9 p.m.

Monday, May 5 – **Friday, May 9** – Final exams.

Friday, May 9 – Residence halls close at 6 p.m. Only students walking in graduation or staying for bridge housing may remain.

Friday, May 9 – Under the Dome commencement tradition for graduating seniors.

Friday, May 9 – **Sunday, May 11** – Senior weekend celebration.

Tuesday, May 13 – **Thursday, May 15** – Commencement ceremonies.

Tuesday, May 13 – All grades are submitted to registrar. Students can check final grades in Student Planning through myWidener.

Friday, May 17 – Commencement severe weather makeup date, if needed.



KEEP IN TOUCH

Your feedback is so important to creating a healthy and supportive environment for your student's learning experience at Widener University. Please contact us with any questions about the articles we shared at studentengagement@widener.edu.

Office of Student Engagement

Call 610-499-4411, email studentengagement@widener.edu.
Office located on the lower level of University Center.

Office of Student Living

Call 610-499-4390, email residencelife@widener.edu.
Offices located in University Center.

Widener Dining

Email campusdining@widener.edu.

Student Health Services

Call 610-499-1183, email studenthealth@widener.edu.
Located in Metropolitan Hall on campus.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

To make an appointment, call 610-499-1261.
Located at 522 E. 14th Street on campus.

Student Financial Services (Lipka Hall)

Visit Lipka Hall on the corner of 14th and Potter Streets.
Call 610-499-4161.

• **Financial Aid Services**

• **Bursar** (tuition/billing/payment plan office)

• **Registrar Office**

• **Campus1Card Office**



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