

**From:** [Tamara Snyder](#)  
**To:** [Student Mailing List](#)  
**Subject:** A Message of Gratitude and Welcome for the Spring Semester  
**Date:** Friday, January 21, 2022 11:30:25 AM

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My dear Beacon Community,

It is fitting in welcoming the safe return of all to campus to begin the Spring Semester with a message of acknowledgement and gratitude.

The ubiquitous presence of the Omicron COVID variant nationwide required that the College take renewed action in entry testing for all who work, study, and reside at the College as a supplement to all *RCI* precautions introduced for the 2021-22 academic year. We are now evaluating the testing protocols that may be necessary moving forward in the semester. This determination will be informed by the results of our testing census to date, recommended best practice from the CDC, and real-time demographics. The College will take its lead from the deliberations and recommendations of the COVID Task Force, which meets next on Thursday, January 27.

With this environmental reality as context, we owe the deepest of appreciation to each member of the community who invested their time and talent in guiding the safe re-entry of both students and personnel over the course of the past several weeks. Nowhere was this more evident than in the on-boarding of new students and their families during a very successful Orientation period, the well-organized move-in of returning students to their residences, and student events over the MLK Jr. holiday that brought our collegians together to foster both service and community. Whether your participation in this exceptionally smooth process was within your scope of responsibility or voluntary, your combined actions made a tangible, affirming difference that markedly benefitted our students and families alike. Thank you!

On a personal note, I want to express deep gratitude to all who picked up the mantle of leadership since Thanksgiving during the rather lengthy stretch of my COVID-related convalescence. It is wonderful to return in good health.

Warmly, and with all good wishes for a safe and accomplished Semester,

George J. Hagerty  
President

**George J. Hagerty**  
**President**  
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