

FROM THE PRESIDENT

WE have a truly remarkable experience planned for you when you arrive on campus to begin your St. Lawrence education. Our primary task at St. Lawrence, clearly articulated in our mission statement, is “to provide an inspiring and demanding undergraduate education in the liberal arts to students selected for their seriousness of purpose and intellectual promise.” You are the students we have selected for their “seriousness of purpose and intellectual promise.” Here is what we are committed to:

- We are committed to “inspiring” students, not just exposing them to new fields and ideas.
- We will be “demanding,” because we know that if we have high expectations of students they will achieve great things.
- We are in the business of “undergraduate” education, so our whole focus is on undergraduate students – you.
- The education we provide is “in the liberal arts.” It is not professional education, or technical education, or vocational education – it is education for a life, education that inspires students to be lifelong learners, education that prepares students to make a difference in a wide array of careers, education that encourages students to find meaning in what they do, and to better understand the great issues and questions that are at the center of the quest to be a learned, educated person. Only 3 percent of American colleges and universities have education in the liberal arts as their primary mission – you are about to become part of a very special tradition.



- We are selective. We seek students who are serious of purpose because we believe that the rich array of opportunities for learning and growth St. Lawrence provides should be reserved for those students who are prepared and willing to dive in deeply to take advantage of them. A great education can't just be “provided” to students. Students must engage – they must be active learners.

- We believe you are ready to engage St. Lawrence.

I have five wishes for you in your time at St. Lawrence:

- That you will be stretched by great teaching and thoughtful mentoring to the point where the best that is within you will find its way out.
- That you will find here lifelong friends of the very best kind.
- That you will do better than we at making the world a place of peace and inclusiveness, a place where prosperity is not just the privilege of a few but the reality for most, a place where there is real justice.
- That you will watch nothing but victories over Clarkson in hockey!
- And that you will come to love this place, as I came to love it while a student over 40 years ago.

Welcome to St. Lawrence!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel F. Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel F. Sullivan
President

WELCOME FROM THE DEANS

WE suspect that as you begin looking through this guide you will be struck by two thoughts: Wow – this is a lot of information; and why do they need me to fill out so many forms?

We'll address the question first. You will make many choices about how you live at St. Lawrence and what you study over the next four years. For right now, we need to be sure that you are studying a topic in the First-Year Program (FYP) that you are interested in, that you have an advisor who can get some sense of the breadth of your interests, and that you are living with someone who shares some of your habits, interests and goals.

In order to accomplish these goals, we need you to give us information about yourself. So, there are a lot of forms, but they are important for us to be able to help you settle in quickly and well so that you can begin to learn, from your classes and outside of the classroom.

As you tell us about yourself, we think it is helpful for you to understand more about St. Lawrence. You will find that we offer academic opportunities that are new, and we think that in many cases you will find them exciting. So, before you tell us about your interests and about courses that you might want to take, we ask that you spend some time learning about all that we have to offer. Instead of just taking classes that you are familiar



with, consider beginning your education at St. Lawrence by taking a course or two in a new area that sounds intriguing, odd or just really interesting. You may end up having academic or career goals that you cannot even begin to imagine now, and taking a course in a new subject may be what helps you to define these goals.

Similarly, read through the information about living arrangements and leadership opportunities. We offer many ways for you to make connections to other St. Lawrence students, and we have both student and professional staff who can be critical resources, from now until far in the future.

This guide contains a tremendous amount of useful information. Please bring it with you, keep it on your desk or near your bed, and read the various sections and topics as issues arise during the academic year. If you have questions or would like to discuss the rationales for the information and policies, please do not hesitate to contact either of us. In the meantime, if you have questions between now and when you arrive on campus, please call the First-Year Program office at 315-229-5909.

Welcome and good luck.

Valerie D. Lehr
Vice President of the University and
Dean of Academic Affairs

Joseph Tolliver
Vice President and
Dean of Student Life