

VISION

'17/'18

The beginning of the academic year always brings a fresh sense of excitement and possibility across the DU campus. Students and faculty alike anticipate all that the year will bring, and it is our privilege in Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence to support students in that journey.

For first- and second-year DU students, our work focuses on building the critical skill sets of understanding oneself and understanding small group dynamics. In the first year, we help students understand their strengths, their personality types, and their leadership types, with the ultimate goal of developing a well-rounded picture of themselves and how they want to make an impact on the world. A great deal of that process is accomplished naturally through interaction with their peers. We provide personal attention through RA's, faculty advisors, and living and learning communities, promoting that growth in our students. This year, we will provide a series of workshops for students to help facilitate this self-awareness. Please encourage your student to participate.

We want to make sure every student feels strong community within their social groups. As our students grow in their understanding of themselves and their sense of belonging, they have opportunities to explore small group dynamics such as conflict resolution and small group facilitation, often through service learning in the community.

Alongside that journey of discovery, our students also engage in career preparation beginning in their first quarter. Our goal is 100% participation each year, knowing that those early and ongoing career conversations have a lasting positive effect on our students' career trajectories.

There is arguably no better way for students to truly understand the influence of culture on their way of thinking than to be infused in a completely different culture. This is why DU prides itself on our Cherrington Scholars Study Abroad Program. During their junior year, almost 80% of students travel abroad. We hope to grow this program and ensure we are providing students with the opportunities to reflect on their time away and what it means about their future. The ability to articulate their story and life goals is the final phase of our work with them.

Thank you for your involvement with the University of Denver. I look forward to the many ways in which Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence will support your student during this exciting educational journey.

Best regards,



Lili Rodriguez, Vice Chancellor

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