

Welcome from the Dean of Students!

Whether you are a returning student or just beginning your collegiate career, you will find that the Framingham State University faculty and staff will work with you to build a community of learners and to create an environment that promotes leadership, values diversity and respect for others, and fosters learning both in and out of the classroom. Welcome to the 2018-2019 academic year!

As the Dean of Students, I am committed to the holistic development of our students through the delivery of innovative programs and services which are responsive to the needs of students, address emerging issues, and foster community-building. The Dean of Students area (comprised of [Career Services and Employer Relations](#), [Campus Ministries](#), the [Counseling Center](#), [Community Standards](#), the [Dean of Students Office](#), the [Health Center and Wellness Education Center](#), [New Student and Family Programs](#), [Residence Life](#), [Student Involvement and Leadership Development](#), and [Veterans Services](#)) supports the academic mission of the University by enhancing student living and learning beyond the classroom that prepares you to thrive in a diverse world. Working in partnership with other members of the University community, we provide a rich array of programs and services that add considerable value to the outstanding learning experience stemming from the classroom.

Some Keys to Success:

- **Be familiar with the [RAM Handbook](#) and [University safety strategies](#).**

This RAM Student Handbook will acquaint all students – new and returning – about many aspects of Framingham State University. You will see descriptions of the services and activities available to students, as well as our rules governing student life and our Student Code of Conduct. This Code, developed with student input and endorsement, provides the model for student interactions on campus and is central to FSU's unique culture and community. The Code establishes the responsibilities that students have in making this a campus that values integrity, professionalism, respect and fairness. I ask that you review these rules and The Code and abide by them. The Ram Handbook also include the Guide to Residence Living, links to the University Catalog, and other policies and procedures important for you to know. Student safety is a priority and you play an important role in keeping our community safe. Please take these steps to make your experience safer: Sign up for FSUAlert through [MyFramingham](#) for safety alerts; place the University Police number in your cell phone, 508-626-4911, so you are not looking it up when you are experiencing an emergency; and, *If you see something, say something*. Framingham State University is part of a larger community. I encourage you to be courteous with regard to noise and disposing of trash when walking to and from our parking lots and along the perimeter of campus.

- **Participate in [FSU Engagement Day](#) – September 17th, 12:30-2:30, Athletic Center and Crocker Grove.**

A key ingredient to your success as a student at Framingham State is to become active in your education. We encourage all of our students to become involved, whether it is joining a student organization, taking on a leadership role, working closely with faculty both in and out of the classroom, participating in athletics, finding an internship, studying abroad or working on campus. You will find that any of these activities contribute to both intellectual and personal growth and prepare you for your future endeavors. At the FSU Engagement Day, you will have the opportunity to meet members of student organizations and over 50 employers (on and off-campus). We encourage you to also check out events, clubs and organizations through [FSUGo](#) and [Ramlink](#) at Framingham State.

- **Balance your academic, social, family, and personal responsibilities.**

Everyone at FSU is expected to be a valuable and productive member of the community. As a student you will be asked to balance your academic responsibilities with your social, family, and personal activities, as well as all other aspects of an adult life. Notice how you spend your time studying, working, and spending time with friends and family. Make sure that you commit time each day to enrich yourself, nourish your soul, and recharge your body and mind. Make a commitment to be healthy mentally, physically and spiritually through utilizing our [Athletics and Recreation Center](#), [eating well](#), visiting our [Health and Wellness Center](#) and celebrating that we are a [Tobacco-free Campus](#). In support of your academic success be sure to seek assistance from your faculty, academic advisor and the staff in [CASA](#). Throughout the year you will need to enlist help or support in any number of ways. Be sure that you use the many resources and services for you to succeed here at FSU. Seek out those that are here to assist you in meeting your goals and responsibilities: the FSU faculty, staff, peer leaders and your friends and family. We encourage you to set your goals and to keep them high.

We were busy making improvements on campus this summer. We are very excited for you to eat in our updated dining facilities, seek assistance through the re-organized Student Service Center (Financial Aid, Student Accounts and Registrar) on the 5th floor of the McCarthy Center, visit/volunteer/donate to our new RAMS Resource Center (Food and Amenities Pantry), and for you to come visit us in the various offices associated with the Dean of Students. In my first full year back at FSU as the Dean of Students, I look forward to getting to know you.

Best wishes for a successful year!

Sincerely,
Meg Nowak Borrego, Ph.D.
Dean of Students