

## **News about Jennifer Walters, Dean of the Undergraduate College June 30, 2022**

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff:

I write to share the news that Dean of the Undergraduate College Jennifer Walters will leave the College at the end of the summer. Dean Walters, who is an ordained Episcopalian priest, has accepted a call to serve as the 18th Rector of All Saints Episcopal Church in Peterborough, New Hampshire. In taking this new position, Dean Walters will return to a vocation that has been a central guiding commitment through her life and realize a long-held wish to lead a parish community. While we are happy that Dean Walters will have this opportunity, we are sad that it means that she will be leaving Bryn Mawr.

During her six years at the College, Dean Walters identified the need for more robust support for all aspects of student life. She led restructuring of Health and Wellness Services and expansion of Counseling Services; advocated for additional staff resources to support accessibility; supported growth of the Pensby Center's programming and staff; and built stronger connections among student-serving offices. The new Student Life and Wellness Building's programming and structure reflect her vision of integrated, holistic support for student well-being and development.

Dean Walters has been a valued advisor and mentor for many individual students and for student groups, to whom she brings thoughtfulness, respect, a strong sense of empathy, and humor. In the past two years she has worked in particular with members of the Honor Board in re-examining and improving processes and creating a more effective orientation to the Honor Code for incoming students.

Jennifer has been an invaluable contributor to the Senior Staff. Her ability to keep a larger focus on our institutional values and on implications for the future has improved our decision-making. I have been particularly grateful for Jennifer's willingness to embrace complexity and her way of gently inviting us to have difficult conversations. Her loving kindness and her quiet humor have been equally welcome contributions.

Dean Walters has also brought many of us renewed awareness of the beauty of the campus through her particular love of trees, her popular ESEM courses, her new ways of understanding through sharing poetry that she loves, her reflective Monday Morning Minutes, and the simple joy of greeting and playing with her dog Birdie. I will miss these and so many other gifts that she has brought to Bryn Mawr.

Cheryl Horsey, the College's Chief Enrollment Officer, will serve as Acting Dean, as we search for the next Undergraduate Dean of the College. I am grateful to Cheryl, who has extensive experience in student services leadership roles, for her willingness to take on this responsibility.

Please look for an announcement later this summer of a community reception to wish Dean Walters well as she enters into a new phase of her life.

Sincerely,

Kim Cassidy  
President