

Dear Alumni and Friends of La Roche:

I am pleased to share with you the wonderful news that La Roche College has been authorized by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to become La Roche University, effective immediately.

Becoming a university is the fulfillment of a vision that many on campus have shared for several years, and is recognition of how far La Roche has come. What began as a school for religious women in 1963 with seven students in its first graduating class is now a university that offers 66 undergraduate programs of study, six master's degrees and one doctoral degree. More than 14,000 alumni live in every state in the U.S. and in 65 countries around the world.

University status will support a growing student population and new academic programs, and it will help La Roche market its offerings to students unfamiliar with its reputation, both domestically and abroad. Additionally, the creation of the La Roche University Lifelong Learning Center will provide academic enrichment and other experiential learning opportunities that enhance the lives of local residents.

As a university La Roche will continue to stand firm in its mission and core values of inclusivity, integrity, determination, compassion, inspiration, justice and peace. La Roche will build on its rich history and what it is already known for – educating students to be lifelong learners in an increasingly diverse and global society.

The future is very bright for La Roche. We anticipate that our strong levels of enrollment will continue to grow and diversify while honoring our traditions and heritage as a Catholic institution. La Roche is indebted to our founders, the Congregation of the Sisters of Divine Providence, and to all of our supporters whose faith in our mission has brought us to this exciting crossroads in our history. God bless you and thank you for your support.

For further information on our transition to university status, please visit <u>laroche.edu/university</u>.

Blessings,

Sister Candace Introcaso, CDP, Ph.D. President, La Roche University