Welcome to College!

Mallory Daily

Welcome, students! My name is Carole Casey, and I am Dean of Students here at Dolus University. I want to express my deepest gratitude to you because you have chosen to be part of the longstanding tradition of Dolus excellence, and I have no doubt you will be essential in carrying our slightly tainted reputation onward. Our family welcomes you with open arms. My door is always open; please come to me with any comments, questions, or concerns so long as they do not conflict with the University’s policies, public mission statements, or administrative decisions. Our faculty and staff are here for you; we are your guides, your resources, and your mentors. And now it is time for you to meet the big guy on campus—I am honored to introduce our president, Dr. Gary Jessup. I very much look forward to seeing your slightly hung-over faces slumming about campus over the next four academic years. Thank you and good luck to you as you enter the next chapter of your lives!

Thank you, Carole. Hello, class of 2016! I am Dr. Gary Jessup, President of Dolus University. I would like to take this time to help you become more familiar with the outstanding tradition Mrs. Casey was talking about. First, it is important that you know our four pillars of excellence, for they will be highlighted on every syllabus you lay your hands on during your time here: Excellence, Leadership, Faith, and Service. Despite the repetition, the importance of faith and service are especially important to us and resonate deeply with our campus community.

We encourage faith of all kinds on our campus: Catholicism, Protestantism, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Atheism, Hinduism, and almost any other kind of -ism you could possibly think of. You’ll be able to explore these ideologies when you take your required theology courses because we offer diverse groupings of all theological disciplines. Perhaps the classes titled “Explorations in Christian Theology”, “Christian Discipleship”, “Christian Faith in Cultural Contexts”, “Jesus the Christ”, or “Sacraments and Christianity” will trigger new interests and give you alternative perspectives on your religious beliefs. As you probably well know, faith often goes hand-in-hand with service, and here at Dolus we believe that the relationship between these two concepts are crucial for the development of each and every one of you.

This is why a service component is often required by your professors to complement their class material. Not only is it incredibly important to us that you broaden your breadth of knowledge through our core curriculum, but we make it our personal goal to create opportunities for you to apply your knowledge in the context of our community’s needs. Whether it be waiting for the 80-bus at 9:00PM on a corner with a burnt out streetlight or getting catcalled as you walk through a homeless shelter, we assure you, the experiences you gain from these opportunities will stick with you for the rest of your college career, and hopefully, for the rest of your life. With the help of these programs, we are coming a couple steps closer to breaking down the barriers between our campus community and the communities surrounding us. We wish to create
a transparent relationship with our neighbors, not only so we can begin to carry cash in our wallets again, but also so we can learn from them as they learn from us.

As Dolus’ mission becomes more appealing to hopeful high school graduates, we are attempting to expand our campus to accommodate the increased number of incoming students. This increase means that although a majority of you are currently living in temp housing and dormitory common spaces, you should not be discouraged; we will likely find a viable solution to the housing snafu by the time you are all well on your way to paying back the debilitating debt you’ve acquired from our less than perfect university. Thankfully, our technical programs have something to look forward to and are receiving the majority of our funds to date. We are building up walls on all sides of campus with expansions to the Dental School, a new engineering building, and a new law library. We take pride in the exclusivity and innovative influence of our science buildings—and our law library was built to reassure you that we are, indeed, a liberal arts college.

We hope that most of our incoming freshman are multi-interested so that your families can invest $3,000 in each class that doesn’t count toward your major. We assure you that the learning experience is well worth the cost, since you are delving deeper into the wide sea of knowledge we can offer and providing our basketball team with new jerseys each year. We create an extensive core curriculum so that you can explore your interests and narrow down which you wish to pursue as a career. Hopefully, your passions align with our upcoming building blueprints, but if for some reason you find yourself enamored with philosophy or literature, we’ll still let you attend the university. Just be prepared to walk up five to seven flights of stairs to get to your classroom assignments. It’s best if your obscure interests stop there and do not transcend to film studies, art history, or theater. Because, we checked and in order to be a liberal arts college you just need three unpractical majors and we’ve got more than our share! Social Welfare and Justice, Anthropology, and History are of our most whimsical.

I remember when I went to college everyone kept telling me that I would probably meet my first wife or my next business partner. Perhaps if you are studying one of the fields previously mentioned, you should take a couple business courses and find a nice boy or girl in Sperry’s and a Ralph Lauren polo. You have the opportunity to meet so many new people during your first weeks on campus; take advantage of it. Your roommate might become your best friend, or you might wake up to them taking pictures of you while you sleep, but either way, here at Dolus we cherish every experience.

My first few weeks of college were amazing. I actually did meet my wife. I took classes with professors that changed how I viewed the world around me. I got my first job. I made friends that still force me to do keg stands when I visit for alumni weekends. It’s a magical time. And I wish you the best in all of your endeavors over the next four years. We are all one big family now. Your choice to attend Dolus will affect the rest of your life, and we are glad to be a part of it. We look forward to seeing how well you carry our four pillars forward and it will be your annual contributions of $10,000 that will keep our values alive and strong long after you’ve left these halls. In closing, I appreciate your choice to attend Dolus University instead of giving your parents the option to finally pay off their mortgage, and I absolutely cannot wait to see how you
make your mark on this university. WE ARE DOLUS! Enjoy your first week of classes! Thank you.