

Dear MBU Parents and Families,

Mary Baldwin University, which has always evolved to serve students in their time, is realigning itself to transform higher education for the benefit of students, their families and communities, and the world.

To best position MBU for her best future and for that of your student this year, we have undertaken steps to refine curriculum, enhance advising, and provide students with experiences beyond the classroom to prepare them for their careers and life after graduation. We strive to fully live our mission of empowering inclusive leaders to create lives of purpose and professional success.

Yesterday we shared with students recent steps we have made to advance our mission. We also wanted to provide this update for you—our valued MBU parents.

The MBU administration and board did not renew the annual contracts of seven of its more than 100 full-time faculty members as part of a longer-term university effort to reallocate resources to support the needs of our students.

Due in part to those staffing transitions, non-graduating students may notice changes to course offerings as they begin registering for Summer and Fall term classes this week and they may have questions about how this will impact their academic experience. We recognize that you also may have questions about how this will affect your student, particularly their path to graduation. First and foremost, we want to assure you that students will be able to continue with, and complete, their course of study on time.

Next week, we will host a series of student listening sessions on campus to address their questions or concerns. As always, their advisors remain available to them for individual guidance. We are working diligently to limit disruption as possible throughout this process and will keep you and your student informed of any further changes. You may also reach out directly to Dr. Paul Menzer, vice president and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, at pmenzer@marybaldwin.edu if you have questions.

Like many industries, higher education faces stiffening economic headwinds, and so, like other industries, needs to calibrate its workforce to those conditions. These actions, while difficult, are in response to student enrollment trends and part of a broader effort to meet the evolving needs of current students and the job market that they will enter.

Mary Baldwin University will be at the forefront of changes in higher education. We remain grateful for your continued understanding as we navigate this moment together.

Sincerely,

Dr. Pamela Fox, President