Dear Johns Hopkins Parents,

We are delighted to welcome new and returning students to campus. The Class of 2018, chosen from a record applicant pool, is incredibly diverse and accomplished: and we have enjoyed helping these fledgling Blue Jays join our vibrant community!

The new school year brings new developments to JHU. This fall, JHU opens new, upgraded facilities for varsity baseball and tennis. Named for head baseball coach Bob Babb and university trustee Bill Stromberg, the new baseball facility features an all-weather turf playing surface, home and visitor dugouts, seating for 260 in the ADA-accessible grandstand, a modern press box equipped with cameras for live-streaming games, and batting cages. Our tennis courts will be resurfaced with the same DecoTurf surface used at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, and will include a new lighting system and spectator seating. Also, our resurfaced Homewood Field is now covered in the same synthetic turf used by the Baltimore Ravens. Read more here, and encourage your students to check the athletics schedules to see when they can attend events and games and cheer on fellow Blue Jay athletes with their friends!

We were recently ranked #2 on The Daily Meal’s list of “Best Colleges for Food in America” for our dining program! JHU has continued expanding and improving our dining options: offering a wide variety of foods, made sustainably from local ingredients whenever possible, to satiate every palate. We aim to ensure that everyone—no matter the combination of personal preferences, dietary restrictions, and food allergies—has an array of healthy and delicious choices available for every meal. Our dining halls, cafés— including the newly opened Bamboo Café—and food truck serve quality meals, made from scratch in small batches, featuring international cuisines and inventive recipes. For questions related to campus dining or meal plans please contact Dining at 410-516-3383 or dining@hd.jhu.edu.

Campus is constantly bursting with activity. On any given day, students will find a student theatre production, an a cappella concert, a comedy show, or even an Iggy Azalea concert to interest them among the many options offered. Student organizations of every variety; ranging from the performing arts, to specialized community service, to political activism, to cultural and international groups, to intramural sports, to hobbies ensure that students are always intellectually engaged and having a good time. Students can enjoy lectures by distinguished speakers through the Milton S. Eisenhower (MSE) Symposium.
On Thursday, October 2nd, students donned their professional best to meet 115 employers in various fields at the Fall Career Fair. Students in all classes should be preparing for their careers, and the JHU Career Center offers information for what students can do at every step. In addition to helping your child prepare for networking and job interviews, you can create internship opportunities for JHU students through the Parents Internship Network (PIN). Last year, parents added 149 new internships to the existing inventory; this year with PIN:200, we aim to add 200!

Opportunities abound for parents to get involved. Join the conversation on the closed JHU Parents Facebook group, volunteer for JHU on campus or at home, contribute to the Hopkins Parents Fund which supports many of the student life programs mentioned above, and more through Parents Programs. Class of 2018 parents can visit the New Parent Page for resources and helpful links.

We would like to highlight the confidential Sexual Assault Helpline (410-516-7333), available 24/7. Launched through the Counseling Center, the Helpline provides information on resources as well as an opportunity to speak directly to a counselor. Our new Sexual Assault Response & Prevention website provides a wealth of resources for all our students.

Campus sexual violence is a serious issue nationwide, and we are committed to addressing it on our campus. It is our hope that with a collaborative effort we can continue to find solutions.

Register by October 10th for Family Weekend: October 24th-26th! Mark your calendars for a Friday and Saturday filled with activities, and a leisurely Sunday to wind down and spend some quality time with your student. Join us for the HOP-Sponsored Family Weekend Tailgate; meet and greet Deans, Student Affairs staff, and fellow JHU parents; enjoy the delicious food and exciting dance performances at the Diwali Dhamaka; attend Parents College and tour our libraries and museums; and more. We hope to see you then!

Sincerely,
Kevin G. Shollenberger, Vice Provost for Student Affairs
Carol M. Lorton, Director, Parents Programs

A Message from Terry Martinez, Associate Vice Provost/Dean of Students
Greetings! I write to share with you my excitement as we launch the academic year. As the Associate Vice Provost and Dean of Student Life, I am certain we will spend time getting to know each other and working together to ensure a wonderful and safe student experience.

I joined the JHU community in July and have thoroughly enjoyed the experience so far. Learning about the campus and its student culture- its areas of excellence as well as those needing attention- continues to be challenging and rewarding. It has been a pleasure to work with JHU students.

I've enjoyed hosting meals and engaging in conversations around building community, traditions, and spirit events. I am also getting to know the student community by attending numerous events including athletic competitions, student meetings, panel discussions, and other events organized by students. I recently formed the Alcohol Strategy Working Group Student Subcommittee to address unhealthy drinking habits, and I'm hosting the Greek Life Summit on October 23rd to begin a conversation about fraternities and sororities as values-driven organizations.

Please encourage your student to contact my office if they have any ideas, questions or concerns!
Our annual HOPtoberfest - a week of Hopkins Parents Fund-supported fall activities - is coming up! Students can revel in their class spirit on Class Color Day and in the Battle of the Classes; sample delicious food and drink throughout the week with events like First Sunday Sundaes and the Midnight Breakfast; enjoy autumn through the Nature Hike, Pumpkin Patch, and Pumpkin Carving Picnic; ring in Halloween with the Haunted Carnival and Alien Laser Tag; and much more.

Undergraduate students from all disciplines interested in conducting research should consider applying for The PURA (Provost Undergrad Research Award). Awardees receive the guidance of a full-time faculty sponsor and choose between $2500 or academic credit to help them complete the projects they design. Awards are given in the fall and spring each year. Fall applications are due by October 15th, and fall awardees are announced on November 1st. Learn more at [www.jhu.edu/pura](http://www.jhu.edu/pura).

Exciting news for this fall: the LGBTQ Center, established in September 2013, will be moving into a larger space in Homewood Apartments, near the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA). In response to a needs assessment conducted last spring, the new LGBTQ Center will have more room for events, small group discussions, and programming, and will include a lounge and kitchenette where students can hang out. Stay tuned for updates about this via Facebook and Twitter, or sign up for the weekly LGBTQnews email!

Brand new this year is the Charles Village branch of Insomnia Cookies, which delivers cookies and milk to your student's door until 3AM: a concept developed in 2003 by a college student with a late-night sweet tooth! Orders can be placed at [www.insomniacookies.com](http://www.insomniacookies.com) for on and off campus delivery. Students can also pick up cookies and other delicious treats in-store, on the bottom floor of Charles Commons, right next to the bookstore.