

Parent and Family Connections Newsletter

Spring 2025, Edition 2



Dean of Students Office
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Sprinting Towards the Finish Line

Dear Parents, Family Members and Friends,

The Dean of Students Office is excited to share with you this latest edition of the Hamline University Family Newsletter. Although weather-wise it may not feel that Spring has arrived, on the campus we are definitely in full Spring mode - with all of the typical end-of-year activities in full bloom for our students. April is full of awards and recognition activities, athletic and artistic events, and even selection and election processes for next year's student leaders. As early as it may seem, we are also planning for next year's events, including Fall Orientation (August 31 - September 2), Homecoming (October 11), and Family Weekend (November 7 - 8), as well as the arrival of new campus leaders, including a new president, Dr. Mayme Hostetter and a new provost and dean of the faculty, Dr. Wesley Kisting.

We know that although there are a lot of activities and experiences our students are looking forward to this month, there may also be increased stress, anxiety and worry as they prepare for final projects, presentations and examinations.

Indeed our graduating seniors are preparing for "the last of the last" final academic experiences and milestones as an undergraduate student. If your student is feeling both excitement and concern this semester, please know that both reactions are normal and natural as we approach the end of the spring semester and academic year. Also, please be reminded that there are many advisors, mentors, peers and supporting offices that can be of assistance, including faculty, staff, coaches, and important student-serving offices such as Counseling and Health, the Center for Academic Success and Achievement (CASA), and the Dean of Students Office. More than likely, your student knows about these resources; however, they may need to be reminded and nudged to reach out for support. Likewise, if you need advice and guidance as you coach and support your student, please do not hesitate to contact the Dean of Students Office at (651)523-2421 deanofstudents@hamline.edu. We are happy to offer insights, information and referrals to respond to your questions and/or the questions your student may have.

In partnership as we support your student,
~Carlos



Carlos Sneed

Associate VP of
Student Affairs

Associate Dean of
Students

As Associate Vice President/Associate Dean of Students, Carlos assists with the overall operation of the Dean of Students Office and responds to student, parent and community concerns and issues. He supervises department leadership for Gender, Sex, and Sexualities Resource Center, Hedgeman Center for Student Diversity Initiatives and Programs, Office of Residential Life, and Student Activities and Leadership Development. He also provides program administration and coordination for parent programs, military students, first generation college students, the Pathways to Hamline pre-orientation program, and student and university traditions.

Dates to Know

4/14/2025 - 4/17/2025	Registration is Open for Fall Semester (date dependent on student status)
4/20/2025	Hamline's FAFSA Priority Deadline
5/8/2025	Spring Semester Classes End
5/12/2025- 5/15/2025	Final Exams
5/17/2025	Commencement To learn more, please visit hamline.edu/commencement
9/3/2025	Fall Semester Classes Begin



Important information from the Hamline Financial Aid Office:

The **2025-2026 FAFSA** application is open! Hamline's FAFSA priority deadline is April 20, 2025. New in 2025: if you are a Minnesota resident, the MN state grant FAFSA deadline is July 31, 2025. <https://studentaid.gov/>

What do I wish my parents had known my first year?

If I could go back to my first year of college, I'd tell my parents how much their belief in me became my anchor. As a first-generation student, their unwavering support and reminders to aim high—because “the sky's the limit”—kept me grounded. Transitioning from seeing them every day to only during the holidays and some weekends wasn't easy, but knowing I could reach out with a text or call made the distance feel smaller. Still, I realize now how hard it must have been for them as parents to be afar, trusting that I'd figure things out even when I didn't respond right away. It's important to see the distance not as a sign of your child

retreating from the family but as a sign of their success in college.

I wish all parents of first-year college students knew that without the expectations and the example my parents have set, followed up with space, I wouldn't be where I am. Finding “my people” didn't happen overnight, but their encouragement to put myself out there eventually led to meaningful connections. From unexpected academic interests to new experiences like internships and study abroad, I've grown by stepping outside my comfort zone. It was important that my parents stressed to me the value of hard work, perseverance, and lifelong learning—lessons I carry with me every day. The guidance they gave me taught me to explore all that college has to offer, and I wish every first-year could have that same foundation.



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<https://collegiateparent.com/>



Hanan Abdi

Biochemistry & English and Communication Studies Major
Class of 2026
Edina, MN

Upcoming Dates in the Hamline Arts

April 10-13

- *Fab-U-Land Performances*

May 3rd

- *Wind Ensemble Concert*

May 4th

- *A Capella Choir Concert*

May 6th

- *Jazz Ensemble Concert*

May 9th

- *Dance Ensemble*

May 10th

- *Orchestra Concert*

- *Dance Ensemble*



<https://www.hamline.edu/life-at-hamline/arts-at-hamline>

Supporting Your College Student Through Course Registration

As the next semester's course registration period approaches, your student will be making important academic decisions. While it's natural to want to help, this is a great opportunity for them to practice independence and responsibility. Here's how you can support them while allowing them to take the lead.



Encourage Your Student to Schedule Their Advising Appointment

- Students are responsible for setting up a meeting with their faculty advisor before registering.
- This is a time to discuss course options, degree requirements, and any academic concerns.



Remind Them to Come Prepared

- Before the advising meeting, students should draft a proposed schedule based on their major requirements and general education courses.
- Flexibility is key—some classes may be full or unavailable at their time of registration, so alternative options should be considered.



Let Them Navigate the Process

- Registration is an essential skill-building experience. Encourage your student to take charge of communication with their advisor and use available campus resources.
- The actual registration windows open up according to completed + in-progress credit hours during the week of April 14, 2025.
- If students encounter challenges, remind them to seek guidance from their advisors, the Center for Academic Success and Achievement (CASA), or the Registrar's Office.



Stay Informed, but Step Back

- While you may be curious about their course choices, trust that they are developing their decision-making skills.
- If they ask for advice, focus on guiding questions rather than directing their choices.

For more information, please visit [Hamline University's Workday Student Resource Page](#).

Your encouragement and support make a difference. Help your student take ownership of their academic journey while knowing you're there for them along the way!

New Leadership at Hamline University Starting July 1st, 2025



Dr. Mayme Hostetter

to become Hamline University's 22nd President

Dr. Mayme Hostetter, a founding leader and current president of the Relay Graduate School of Education in New York City, was introduced as the 22nd president of Hamline University at a campus gathering on Wednesday, January 8th.

Dr. Hostetter, who was raised in the Twin Cities, brings a proven background of excellence in educating teachers and commitment to student success to Hamline, Minnesota's first university and a regional leader in education.



Dr. Wesley Kisting

to become Hamline University's Provost and Dean of the Faculty

Wes brings nearly 20 years of higher education experience, having served most recently as the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls. Prior to that, he served as the Associate Dean of the Pamplin College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at Augusta University in Georgia. He holds a BA in English and Writing from Marquette University and a PhD in English from the University of Iowa.



OFFICE SPOTLIGHT

ATHLETICS

At Hamline Athletics, we stress the importance of Classroom, Competition, Community and Culture.

Excellence in the Classroom

Fall 2024 was a record breaking semester with 62 student-athletes named MIAC Academic All Conference!

Our women's teams had a cumulative GPA of 3.59 and our men's teams had a cumulative GPA of 3.28. Overall, Hamline Athletics had a cumulative GPA of 3.43!

- 390 of our student-athletes achieved a 3.0 GPA or greater
- 303 of our student-athletes achieved a 3.5 GPA or greater
- 215 of our student-athletes achieved a 3.75 GPA or greater
- 92 of our student-athletes achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA

ALL of our teams achieved above a 3.0 TEAM GPA!

Competitive Excellence

It was a fun winter with men's basketball, women's basketball and women's hockey all earning the #3 seed in the MIAC Playoffs! Men's and women's Swimming and Diving broke multiple school records and set lifetime bests in the MIAC Championships. Gymnastics represented well in the WIAC Championships and men's Hockey had some big wins throughout their season.

In the Fall, our men's soccer team set the school record for wins with 14. Volleyball and Football had some incredible individual performances and competed hard throughout the season. Women's Soccer made huge strides this year as did men's and women's cross country!

This Spring, we are ready to cheer on our baseball team at CHS Field, our softball at Meredith Field and our women's lacrosse team at Klas Field. Men's and women's Tennis will get more opportunities to play at the newly renovated Jeff Green and Family Tennis Center at Holt Courts on campus and our men's and women's Track and Field teams will be ready to compete on the newly named Kent Stahly Track!

Community

On February 2nd, Hamline Athletics teamed up with Macalester Athletics to host a Unified Basketball game with the Special Olympics! The court was lined with 100+ student-athletes cheering the athletes on. It is important for our teams to give

back to the community and be part of something bigger than themselves.

Our Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) continues to find ways to engage with our community and be involved. We are working with Hamline Elementary to have student-athletes involved during the day to help out at the school and be resources for the kids during lunch and recess.



Culture

The "Bleacher Boys" continue to elevate our game day experience for our programs. One of our pillars of Hamline Athletics is to celebrate the success of others. That is on full display as teams cheer on other teams and root for their success! We hosted two home playoff games in the winter (men's and women's basketball) and we had huge student sections for those games. It was the first time we have ever hosted a playoff "double-header" with men's and women's basketball and our students cheered both teams on to victory!

We continue to find ways to bring our teams TOGETHER. It is important that our teams interact with each other and we all represent HU Athletics. We will be celebrating all of our accomplishments this year at THE HAMMIES, our end of the year athletic awards banquet.



Alex Focke

Assistant Vice President &
Director of Athletics