

# ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF CAMPUS LIFE

August 16, 2023

Dear Students,

I hope you are enjoying a fun and relaxing summer. Soon you will be back on the EC campus, and there have been a number of exciting developments that I'd like to share in preparation for your return.

- Given that college is one of the most expensive investments in most people's lives, you now have the ability to **opt into a tuition insurance plan** through GradGuard. The information for opting into the plan is listed on the homepage of [MyEC](#). You cannot predict if you will need to withdraw or take a leave **due to a health issue** during the term, **particularly if you are an athlete**. The EC refund policy only covers the first four weeks, but you can **protect your investment for up to a 100% refund for the entire term** by opting into this plan. **The deadline for opting in for Term I is Sunday, August 27, 2023.** To learn more, visit <https://gradguard.com/tuition/elmira>. Please discuss this option with your families!
- Effective August 1st, Elmira College became a **smoke-free campus**. [Attached is the new smoke-free campus policy](#). You can also access the policy and campus announcement under "Important Resources" on the homepage of MyEC. Please also remember that although marijuana possession and use is legal in New York State, it is still illegal (banned substance) at the federal level, and therefore, on the EC campus since we receive federal funds.
- Thank you to the Promising Class of 2023, who successfully fundraised for their class gift, a **custom-built bar in MacKenzie's!** It can now be used for pub nights, senior week events, and campus programs. Class gifts are an important tradition of student philanthropy at Elmira College!



- As announced by Academic Affairs earlier this summer, beginning with the upcoming 2023-2024 academic year, Elmira College will be adjusting its [academic calendar](#) to better meet the needs of our students. This new, adjusted schedule will enhance your ability to get started with summer and post-graduation job opportunities, enable stronger athletic schedules, and more closely align student-teaching and clinical experiences with other institutions. **Notable updates include:**
  - Winter Break is March 2-10, 2024
  - Spring Break is April 13-16, 2024
  - Term III 2024 begins on Wednesday, April 17 and concludes Wednesday, May 15, 2024 (**students must be present on the first day of Term III courses to receive credit**)
  - To facilitate the condensed schedule, Term III courses **will be held on Wednesdays**
  - May Days are April 29 - May 4, 2024. There will be no class on Wednesday, May 1, 2024
  - Senior events begin on May 15, and **Commencement is Sunday, May 19, 2024**
- Elmira College is proud to introduce you to a **new student app, Navigate**. With this app, you will be able to review campus resources, access your class schedule, make appointments with your advisor

(once the term gets started), request tutoring and “study buddies,” view any holds you may have, and receive notifications about events on campus or any assigned “to dos” from your success team. You may also occasionally receive a brief survey about campus programs or services. **Get started today** by going to the [Navigate at Elmira](#) webpage for instructions on how to download the app!

- In addition to our returning Community Coordinator, Sydney Coleman, who will be the Residence Life professional staff member overseeing Meier Hall, Perry Hall, Tompkins Hall, and Cottages, **we are welcoming two new Community Coordinators**. Kristofer Zero '23 is the new Community Coordinator overseeing Towers, and Abdi Maalo will be the Community Coordinator for Anderson and Columbia Halls. We wish the best to our departing CC, Kaitlin Gandy, who will be teaching Art at an area school. We are also welcoming **a new Coordinator of Campus Engagement**, Danielle Narrows, who will be working closely with Ytzal Flores Christiansen on student events, activities, and student clubs and organizations.
- The EC Dining Hall has a new manager! Ken Knowles comes to us from SUNY Broome Community College, and he is excited to meet our students and improve your dining experience. If you have special dietary needs or requests, please talk with Ken soon. He looks forward to getting to know you and hearing your requests!
- Please be sure to **register your vehicles** with the Office of Campus Safety. There is no charge for registering one or multiple vehicles you may be driving to campus. Just go to MyEC, click on the Student tab, then go to Student Forms.

I hope you find this information helpful. Please let me know if you have any questions. The summer has been too quiet without you, and I sincerely look forward to you returning to campus.

My best to you,  
Liz

**Dr. Elizabeth A. Lambert**  
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