

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members of the Adler Community,

I hope everyone was able to enjoy the holiday season and get some much-needed time to rest and rejuvenate. As we usher in 2025 and begin the Spring semester, I continue to learn from all of you and remain invigorated by our commitment to delivering on the promise of education to our students — especially through our focus on health equity and justice in our educational and pedagogical work.

Adler is a remarkable institution, and we have the opportunity to reshape our future and work with partners who can help support and advance our mission. And I want to again thank our students, faculty, staff, and administrative leadership for your commitment to Adler, and for your partnership to make Adler the best we can be.

Since the beginning of my tenure and the start of the academic year in September 2024, I have worked to create opportunities to engage in meaningful conversations, undertake thoughtful assessments, and begin to implement incremental changes — all informed by your insights and the core principles of people, purpose, and partnership. We will realign many areas and all of these efforts are designed to get input and take actions that will strengthen our institutional foundation and position Adler for long-term success.

As I continue to state, our students are at the heart of all we do. I want to reiterate that we are committed to our students' success at Adler and beyond. Meeting with student representatives and alums is enabling me to collaborate on piloting new ways to engage students as lifelong Adlerians. In the coming months and years, we will focus on enhancing student success models, creating new opportunities for students to excel academically and personally, and re-engaging our alums — changemakers whose significant contributions to society are central to the Adler University story.

The work of the faculty across Adler has been and continues to be central to delivering on the promise of education for our students. Your expertise and dedication are what drive Adler forward. This year, we hope to find innovative ways to support and grow our faculty, enhance resources, and realign policies, governance, and infrastructures to further support faculty in their ability to thrive in their roles and be recognized as leaders both inside and outside of Adler.

Our administrative staff and leadership are also vital to the success of our students. Operational excellence is a cornerstone of institutional stability and long-term viability. We continue to restructure and realign our administrative leadership structures. And, as we reimagine the leadership and staffing structures across Adler, we will continue to uplift excellence in all our administrative work with attention to how we continue to support our mission and commitment to our students.

Continued efforts this year will focus on institutional health, viability, and resilience as we lean into innovation, collaboration, mission, and purpose, as well as a culture of care built on principles of community value and respect. Every contribution, no matter the size, plays a vital role in advancing our work and impact, and the value of this can never be underestimated. One of the wonderful things about higher education is that we have a plethora of constituencies on a journey to create new generations of leaders — some committed to educating themselves, some to creating all types of new collaborations and pedagogical practices, and others working to provide the operational excellence that supports all of these endeavors, and more. Therefore as a collective body, we have varying points of view and varying contributions, and as a result, we continue to be a dynamic site of learning that is not merely responding to the challenges of today, but actively laying a foundation for academic and operational excellence that will enable us, and in particular our students, to not just survive, but to thrive in all that is next.

Finally, as I stated earlier, I have already learned so much from all of you and am excited to learn more. Thank you for your participation in all of the first steps (assessments, town halls, office hours, receptions, etc). As we continue this institutional journey together, more opportunities will arise to grow and evolve as a community. I hope we can embrace this journey with optimism, empathy, and care for one another. As many of you know, I am a gardener, and we have only just begun planting the seeds. There is still much care we must take in the work ahead.

I want to close by again thanking all members of the faculty and staff for their work and dedication to deliver on the educational promise to our students — our future leaders — who will continue to drive meaningful and lasting change as they go out into society with an educational foundation steeped in the principles of health equity, access, and justice. And, I want to thank our students (and alumni) for your trust in us to provide you with the academic preparation that will propel you forward.

Welcome to 2025.



Lisa Coleman, Ph.D.
President
Adler University