

June 6, 2016

To the University of Delaware Community:

In November, you extended a warm welcome to my family and me as new Blue Hens, making us feel immediately at home on the beautiful University of Delaware campus. Today, I am deeply honored and thrilled to begin serving as your new president.

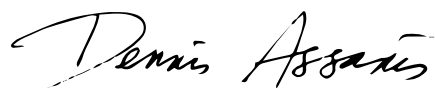
Throughout the spring, I interacted with students, faculty, administrators, staff and Trustees to learn more about the University, its people, its aspirations and its challenges. At Alumni Weekend, I had the opportunity to meet with many of our proud Blue Hens and was impressed by their dedication to their alma mater. There is more for me to learn, and I would love to hear from you in our quest for inclusive excellence.

Many people have worked diligently behind the scenes to ease my transition into the presidency. In particular, I am grateful to immediate past President Nancy Targett for her excellent work to keep the momentum going during this past academic year. I wish her well at the University of New Hampshire this fall.

I would also like to acknowledge the lasting contributions of UD's other most recent presidents, Pat Harker and David Roselle, who over the past quarter-century laid the foundations on which we can continue building. Our institution is known for the quality and achievements of its students, alumni, faculty and staff. Together, I know we can advance this rich legacy of excellence. Together we can leap into an even brighter future.

I am truly excited to get to know more of you in the weeks and months ahead. I look forward to our journey together.

Sincerely,



Dennis Assanis
President