

*The following email from President Michael S. Roth was sent to the Wesleyan community this morning.*

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Dear friends,

It feels like a long time in coming, doesn't it? The start of our semester of in-person classes is finally underway. Welcome to the Fall Semester of 2021!

Over the last year-and-a-half we have shown more than ever that Wesleyan is a strong and caring community. While prioritizing safety, we continued to develop new ways to fulfill our academic mission while successfully protecting our campus constituents—our students, our faculty, and our staff. Beyond safety, we want people at Wesleyan to really thrive.

**We are so excited to be able to be together again**—so much of the distinctive Wesleyan education is about connection and the open exchange of ideas that can happen anywhere at any time, a classroom, a dining hall, the gym. We are at our best when we are together, learning from each other and interacting with each other in myriad ways all around the campus.

Many have lost loved ones to this awful disease; our hearts go out to all those who grieve. We have all been changed and affected by the global pandemic, and we have taken those lessons to heart. We stand in respectful solidarity with all those working to improve public health.

Things on campus may look slightly different than before (masking, some social distancing), but the dynamic energy and potential of a reunited Wesleyan is still recognizable in our commitment to providing a distinctive educational experience within an open community that genuinely cares about its members. We are stronger for having overcome the adversity of the past 18 months and better prepared to face any new challenges that might come our way.

With excitement and gratitude,

Michael S. Roth  
President