

Carleton College
One North College Street
Northfield, Minnesota

Institutional Research and Assessment

507-222-4284

July 27, 2009

Dear Member of the Class of 2013:

Congratulations on your decision to come to Carleton! We are all looking forward to welcoming you to campus at the end of the summer.

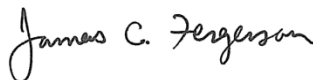
Each year since 1966, Carleton students have joined thousands of new college students in completing the nation's largest and oldest, nationally-administered Freshman Survey. It is created and sponsored by the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) at UCLA. The Freshman Survey provides a broad baseline profile of your class, as well as a means to compare your class to past and future Carleton students. It also helps to compare you to other entering students both nationally and among our peer colleges, and to provide a benchmark against which to measure your future academic progress.

Carleton takes pride in its programs, and it is recognized as a national leader in the evaluation of student learning. You should expect to participate in a variety of surveys or other research experiences during your undergraduate years. Your patience and cooperation is essential for improving the Carleton experience. Your professors will give you grades, but as students, you also have a responsibility to participate in the evaluation of your education. Carleton actively uses the results of its ongoing student evaluation programs to develop academic and student life programming that will be responsive to student needs and interests.

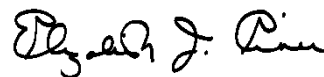
Carleton is administering the Freshman Survey online, so please check your Carleton e-mail on or about August 6th for an email from Carleton and CIRP/UCLA containing a unique, confidential Web link (URL) to the survey. *The survey will ask you for a student ID so that you can be tracked in follow-up studies. Please use the first part of your Carleton e-mail address (dropping the @carleton.edu portion) as your ID.* We hope that you will take about half an hour or so to complete it when it arrives in later this month.

Best wishes for the remainder of the summer. See you on campus in the fall!

Sincerely,



James C. Fergerson
Director, Institutional Research and Assessment
jfersers@carleton.edu



Elizabeth Ciner
Associate Dean of the College
eciner@carleton.edu

Disclaimers: Although we very much need *your* participation, the survey *is* voluntary. We may occasionally link your responses to other surveys or institutional data for research purposes or to measure how you have changed over time. For some national studies, we may be asked to share individual survey responses with our peer institutions, but only after stripping away any information that would identify you personally. Neither our office nor CIRP will share data internally or externally so that you can be identified by name. We have great respect for the security and confidentiality of your information. All analyses will be reported only in summary form, and the information will be used only for educational research.