Dear Member of the Class of 2020,

Congratulations on your decision to come to Carleton! We are looking forward to welcoming you to campus in a few weeks.

Each year, members of the new entering class at Carleton complete a Survey of New Students. This year’s survey is administered through a consortium that includes MIT. This ongoing research on college student experiences gathers information from the entering class that serves as a profile for your class and is compared to entering classes at other colleges and with other past entering classes here at Carleton. Your responses also serve as a benchmark against which the progress of your class is measured.

Carleton takes pride in all its programs. A critical element of its ability to maintain quality and improve continually is through its nationally recognized work in the evaluation of student learning. As such, we ask for your cooperation in being assessed. During your time at Carleton, you should expect to participate in a variety of surveys or other research experiences. We will attempt to minimize the number of times that you are asked to complete institutional surveys each year and in turn, we ask that you respond to survey requests with thoughtful, timely responses. 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 this year’s Survey of New Students online, so please check your Carleton e-mail over the next few days for an email that will contain your unique, confidential Web link (URL) to the survey. The email message may come from an [mit.edu] address. This survey will take about half an hour to complete. We hope that you will take time to complete it when it arrives in the next few days. Please complete it before coming to campus.

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

Sincerely,

George Shuffelton
Associate Dean of the College
gshuffel@carleton.edu

Note: Although we need your participation very much, the survey is voluntary. We may link your responses to other surveys or institutional data for research purposes or to measure how groups of students have changed over time. For some national studies, we may be asked to share survey data with our peer institutions, but only after stripping away any information that would identify you personally. Neither our office nor MIT 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 will be used only for educational assessments and research.