

Staying Connected with Campus Services

I've heard several folks say that things have changed this week, that things are getting a bit harder. Perhaps it was that cold, rainy day that provided a hint of winter days to come or the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in the local area. Whatever it is that might cause you angst, please know there are resources available to help. Lean in on friends and family to talk or reach out to the 24/7 [Employee Assistance Program](#). There are many resources listed on the [Wellness at Dartmouth](#) website. Know, too, that you're a valued member of a strong and caring Campus Services team. Take good care of yourself and one another.



The Daily Dining Puzzle

How do you provide dinner for ~1,200 people in a 1 hour, 15 minute timeframe with limited seats, all while social distancing?

This is the daily challenge of Dartmouth Dining who continues to model different logistical solutions to avoid student crowding during peak times (6:00-7:15 pm) and have students enter and exit '53 Commons in the most efficient way.

The solutions, according to Dining Director Jon Plodzick, are derived from soliciting ideas from *everyone*: from employees who staff the food and beverage stations to the greeters, managers, and the students, too. Here are some of the latest winning configurations:

- The best way to pace students' entrance into the building is to staff the reception area with just one greeter. It's safer for a line to accumulate outside than inside, but the goal is for less than a 10-minute wait.
- Serve the main food entrée from 4 different lines, located at 2 different stations. This keeps the lines moving with appropriate social distancing.
- By recently rearranging the furniture, 42 more seats were added (to the current max of 243). Students' current favorite spots are the Paganucci Lounge, the TV lounge on the 2nd floor, and Open Tables (more on this concept later).

Great teamwork, everyone!



Friendly Reminders

Please pay attention to the these key dates and deadlines:

Oct. 19-Nov. 2: [Open Enrollment](#) period to sign up for next year's benefits

Oct. 26: Don't forget to email a photo of you and your pumpkin creation to Kaitlyn at Kaitlyn.Christian@dartmouth.edu. Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 winners in 3 voting categories: Best of Show, Spookiest, and Ugliest. **BOO!**

Oct. 31: Deadline for the best deals on early bird season passes at the [Dartmouth Skiway](#).

Pause to Enjoy this Sculpture

Have you noticed the new sculpture, located adjacent to Rollins Chapel and entitled "Wide Babelki Bowl"? If not, please do. This large-scale, cedar sculpture, created by Ursula von Rydngsvard, "is made to human scale and for bodily interaction. In scale it's incredibly important outdoors to have a presence underneath the sky, underneath the sun, and I never, ever think of competing with what nature does in any way."

The artist further explains, "Babelki are the popcorn stitches that get knit onto sweaters, but in Polish, they also refer to the little lambswool fluff balls attached to the neck or waist of a sweater."

Stop and take a few moments to look at the sculpture and nearby curator's notes. There is a lot to think about in terms of history, the soft and natural materials used, and the sense of place.