THE UNIVERSITY OF
SCRANTON
A JESUIT UNIVERSITY

November 9, 2026

Dear Royals:

This week, The University of Scranton joins colleges and universities across the country in celebrating National First-Generation College Celebration Day. This annual observance is held at the beginning of November in recognition of the passing of the Higher Education Act of 1965, landmark legislation that expanded access to higher education for millions of Americans. **I invite you to join us for our campus celebration on November 12 (11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; Second floor, DeNaples Center).** The event will feature activities, opportunities to connect with fellow Royals, and limited-edition THR1VE t-shirts for students while supplies last!

Faculty and staff who were the first in their families to earn a four-year college degree are encouraged to attend. Please stop by, pick up a THR1VE pin, share your story, and connect with students. Throughout the day, we also invite you to celebrate your first-generation journey on social media using #FirstGenRoyal.

As a Catholic and Jesuit institution, we proudly support all students in realizing their full potential with the goal of leading lives of meaning and purpose. First-generation students make up nearly 28% of our undergraduate population, and we celebrate their gifts, talents and contributions to our community. For many students, earning a college degree is transformative. For first-generation students, that achievement often extends beyond the individual, creating opportunities and lasting impact for entire families and future generations. Their resilience, courage, and commitment embody the very best of the University of Scranton.

Please join me in celebrating the achievements and contributions of our first-generation students, alumni, faculty, and staff. Together, let us recognize their success and reaffirm our commitment to supporting students as they pursue their goals and aspirations.

God bless you and Go Royals!

Joseph G. Marina, S.J.
President