



September 13, 2024

Dear Friends,

Once again, our campus community will proudly join in the national celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, with the theme of “Pioneers of Change: Shaping the Future Together.” We celebrate the strength, courage, resolve, fervor and contribution of all Latinx/e people now and in our history to build businesses, cultures, and communities of faith despite ongoing struggle and subjugation.

Any understanding of the United States and its history is incomplete without recognizing and celebrating the contributions of the Latinx/e community. By learning, embracing and uniting in our similarities, and learning and appreciating our differences, The University of Scranton can create a campus of love, understanding and support. Today, as always, our country and our campus are shaped immeasurably by the expertise, talent, sacrifice and service of our Hispanic and Latinx/e sisters and brothers. We are deeply grateful for their contributions and the richness they bring to our community.

In particular, I commend the great work of the Association of Latinx/e American Students (ALAS), which seeks to represent the rich diversity of Latin American culture on our campus. As the Association’s President, Wailly J. Lewis, ’26 said, Hispanic Heritage Month “gives the entire community a chance to learn, engage and build understanding... which helps foster a more inclusive and supportive environment for everyone in the Latinx community.” I encourage everyone to help us enhance this more inclusive community by attending some of the [great events the University offers this month](#), including table sits, conversations, lectures, movie screenings, a South Side restaurant tour and a joint screening and panel discussion of the stories of local Hispanic/Latinx/e residents with the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine.

I invite you to join as our campus shares in this celebration and to learn more about the history and heritage that inspired it. May we continue to work together toward a more just and perfect union, one that embraces the richness and strength of our diversity.

Yours faithfully,

Joseph G. Marina, S.J.  
President