International Women’s Day: A Message from the President
March 8th, 2017

Dear Regis Community,

I would like to take this day - the International Day of Women - to unequivocally reassert Regis University's commitment to gender equality. We strive to educate students and to create home and work environments that:

- respect and support human and civil rights and nondiscrimination
- ensure the health, safety and well-being of all women
- empower women to flourish in this learning environment and this workplace
- promote equality through campus and community initiatives, and advocacy

Pope Francis instructs us to "see in the women's movement the working of the Spirit for a clearer recognition of the dignity and rights of women." It is incumbent upon all of us to ensure that women are respected and empowered.

To achieve that, it is necessary for us to admit some uncomfortable truths: in our world, women have born the burden of discrimination - from limited access to education and work opportunities and lower pay for the same work, to outright sexual harassment and violence.

Let us pledge to call out misogyny wherever we witness or experience it. Our faculty and staff educate students on issues of civil rights, privilege, inclusion and social justice every day. As a university, we are similarly committed to upholding the ideals of civil rights on our campus. To that end, we prohibit discrimination, harassment and sexual violence in all its forms. The University provides procedures for anyone to report problems without fear of retribution, we investigate all complaints of discrimination and hold people accountable for their behavior.

These issues are often very difficult to talk about, and we are legally constrained from discussing the specifics of any particular matter, but rest assured Regis University is dedicated to this cause.

I also encourage you to attend Regis' inaugural Women and Leadership Conference on March 25. It is sponsored by the Women's and Gender Studies program and the WELL Center at the College of Business and Economics. For more information, visit regis.edu/womensconference.
Gratefully,

Rev. John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J.
President