**Better Lesley Student FAQs**

1. **Why are you making these changes?**

Lesley plays a unique and important role in the higher education landscape, conferring the most degrees in New England for specialized education and mental health, and leading in graduating practicing artists. To continue to support these critically needed professions in a highly competitive marketplace, we are evolving.

1. **What will improve?**

As it relates to your education, we are seeking to create a more flexible, accessible, and vibrant experience with better functioning student support services and a more interdisciplinary approach toward learning. We are working to create greater ease of access to programs in modality, scheduling and ability to move among programs. Classes will have a more cross-disciplinary student body, enlivening the educational experience. Course schedules will be more predictable for easier planning. Support will be more coordinated across the community.

Work is also underway to invest in core programs and other ways to strengthen our support of students and graduates, through investment in key areas, deepening partnerships, building an effective online program and extending lifelong support to graduates, starting with the Threshold Program.

1. **How are current programs being affected?**

Several programs will be combined to offer more interdisciplinary learning opportunities. In four programs, where, for instance, there are three faculty for fifteen students, the decision will mean that students currently enrolled will graduate with those degrees but these programs will not be offered as majors in the future. ALL students currently enrolled will be able to finish their programs and advisors are reaching out to affected students to assure their continued advancement in their chosen program.

1. **Will these changes affect any faculty?**

Lesley is reaching out to faculty affected by these decisions to speak with them individually, and also to the core faculty union. Our focus now is on caring for these individuals. We’ll be doing that before releasing any other information.

1. **Who should I talk with if have questions or concerns?**

We’ll be reaching out to any student who is in a program where they will finish their degree, but we will no longer offer the program as a major area of study thereafter. Our aim is to work with these students to assure their continued advancement in their chosen program. Any student should reach out at any time to their advisor, the Support Hub or feedback@lesley.edu and we will be back to you promptly.

1. **Is Lesley vulnerable to shutting down?**

No. Lesley is fortunate to have a healthy endowment, and excess and valuable real estate that helps us to make this transformation, including investments in our campus plan. Putting in place the changes necessary to make our programs as effective as possible for today’s students will permit Lesley to continue to play a key role in educating teachers, mental health professionals, artists and the related professions that make Lesley-Lesley.