



Dear Friends:

A belated Happy New Year. Like many, I seized the opportunity to connect with family and friends over the recent holiday season. A highlight was attending Johnson & Wales University's Boston Regional Chapter Alumni Event in December. It was wonderful to reminisce, network and learn about people's exciting plans.

At this time when some of our New Year's resolutions are waning, I encourage you to join me in sticking to a simple yet rewarding resolution — to stay actively engaged with your alma mater.

It is an exciting time for JWU. We are striving to meet tomorrow's challenges with FOCUS 2011, our action-oriented strategic plan. FOCUS emphasizes affordability and quality throughout the university. We are in the second year of the plan, and as you read this magazine you will see that we are not only on track, but ahead of schedule, in many of the ambitious goals we have set.

While we are achieving important milestones, we cannot continue to succeed without your involvement. Our alumni play an important and multifaceted role in our strategy. We need you to attend admissions events to tell students and parents about your success. We need you to hire our graduates, return to the classroom to share your experiences and spread the word about your JWU education.

Pledge whatever you can. We have all experienced the transformational power of education. Like many of us, our current students too struggle to afford their education. It is up to us to ensure those in the next generation who want that opportunity can have it.

We are re-establishing alumni chapters and need you to lead and direct those efforts. We recognize that alumni interests are varied and change with the passage of time. We remain committed to offering multiple avenues to connect, be informed, learn, feel pride and give back.

A great university deserves a great alumni association. We want to draw each and every graduate into a lifelong connection with JWU and inspire you to connect with your alma mater. This year and for the years to come, resolve to strengthen your connections to JWU. You are a critical part of our university's evolving story.

A handwritten signature of John J. Bowen in blue ink, written in a cursive style.

University President John J. Bowen '77