



**CHRISTINE M. RIORDAN, PH.D.  
PRESIDENT**

**Christine M. Riordan, Ph.D., the first woman to serve as president of Adelphi, is an internationally recognized expert in leadership development, team building, and diversity and inclusion,** and is recognized for her groundbreaking initiatives to personalize and transform the higher education experience.

Upon her appointment as Adelphi's 10th president in July 2015, working with a wide array of members of the Adelphi community, Dr. Riordan led a comprehensive analysis of the University to gain a thorough understanding of the institution's strengths and potential for growth and opportunity. This effort laid the foundation for our strategic plan,

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**“Adelphi students have unparalleled opportunities to explore their passions and discover new ones through rich hands-on experiences, including research, internships and service learning.”**

*Momentum*, and a set of transformational goals to strengthen the academic experience, deepen the commitment to student success, enhance the diversity and inclusion of students and employees, boost enrollment domestically and internationally, increase fundraising, and transform Adelphi University from a regionally known university to a nationally recognized modern metropolitan university.

In the initial year of Adelphi's new strategies, the first-year population grew 40 percent and transfers 60 percent, with the graduate population increasing by 3 percent. In Fall 2016, Adelphi enrolled the largest first-year class—and the most diverse—in its history. Alumni giving is at an all-time high. Today, Adelphi is ranked among the top 150 doctoral research universities in the United States. It has also been named to the President's

Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll and has earned the Carnegie Community Engagement classification.

The University's programs have recently been recognized by major media outlets. Adelphi advanced in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings and was cited for excellence by *USA Today* and *Washington Monthly*. The prestigious *Fiske Guide to Colleges* gave Adelphi a Best Buy rating for the 11th straight year. *USA Today College* named Adelphi one of the top 10 colleges for majoring in social work. *Forbes* placed Adelphi on its list of America's Top Colleges 2016, a rating that focuses specifically on student outcomes and career success.

With Dr. Riordan's leadership, Adelphi has developed and launched several new academic programs, substantially expanded the services of the University's Center for Career and Professional Development, and opened the 100,000-square-foot Nexus Building, home of Adelphi's innovative and top-ranked nursing and public health program and a host of personalized student support services. The University also established a highly regarded Office of Diversity and Inclusion and initiated a Diversity Certificate training program for faculty and staff, and is providing increasingly personalized educational supports for students of all abilities.

Prior to joining the Adelphi community, Dr. Riordan served as provost of the University of Kentucky, which has more than 30,000 students, 19,000 full- and part-time employees, and a budget of \$3 billion, and as dean of the Daniels College of Business at the University of Denver, a *U.S. News & World Report*-ranked Best Business School.

Dr. Riordan has published more than 60 academic and business press articles, is authoring a book on leadership, and

is a frequent speaker on leadership and overcoming challenges, including her TEDx talk, “Dare to Be Extraordinary.” Dr. Riordan consults regularly with corporations on leadership-development activities, diversity management and team performance. She has been interviewed and written articles for media such as *The Financial Times*, *Harvard Business Review*, *Forbes*, *USA Today*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *The New York Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, The Huffington Post, MSNBC, CNN, CNBC, *The Wall Street Journal* MarketWatch, CareerBuilder and *Psychology Today*. These articles are profiled at [christineriordan.com](http://christineriordan.com). Her work has been cited more than 4,300 times by other authors.

Dr. Riordan serves on the board of directors of RE/MAX Holdings, Inc. (NYSE:RMAX) and is chair of the nominating and governance committee and serves on the compensation committee. She previously served on the audit committee. Dr. Riordan is a National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD) Board Leadership Fellow—The Gold Standard Director Credential. She is on the board of directors of the Long Island Association (LIA), a leading business organization on Long Island. Dr. Riordan is a trustee and serves on the steering committee of the Long Island Regional Advisory Council on Higher Education (LIRACHE). Dr. Riordan is a member of the President’s Advisory Council at the Georgia Institute of Technology and she is chair of the President’s Council for the Northeast-10 Conference.

Dr. Riordan has made her mark since moving to Long Island. In 2016, she made the *Long Island Press* Power List of the 50 most influential people on Long Island and *Long Island Business News* included her in its listings of Who’s Who in Education, Who’s Who in Professional Women and Top CEOs. She also received the *Bethpage Best of Long Island Awards* Best College President. She is a recipient of the Advancement for Commerce, Industry & Technology (ACIT) Monsignor Hartman Humanitarian Award for Commitment to Leadership in the Field of Education and was named one of the 2017 New York State Senate Women of Distinction.

Other awards and recognitions include the Family & Children’s Association 2015 Woman of Distinction, the Girl Scout Woman of Distinction, one of the Most Brilliant Minds in Fort Worth and the Michael Driver Award for Best Careers Article. For her scholarly work, she has received the Sarah Moss Fellowship for International Research, the Sanford Research Fellowship and the Sanford Faculty-Practitioner Grant.

President Riordan is married to Robert (Bob) D. Gatewood, Ph.D., author of *Human Resource Selection* (8th ed.) and professor emeritus at the University of Georgia. They have two teenagers, Mikaela and Mason, and an Olde English Bulldogge named Georgia. Dr. Riordan enjoys running, biking, lifting weights and reading. She received her Ph.D. in organizational behavior and M.B.A. from Georgia State University and a bachelor’s degree in textile engineering (now called materials science and engineering) from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

President Riordan can be reached by email at [president@adelphi.edu](mailto:president@adelphi.edu). Connect with President Riordan on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter [@PrezRiordan](https://twitter.com/PrezRiordan).

## About Adelphi

**A modern metropolitan university with a personalized approach to higher learning**

Adelphi University is a highly awarded, nationally ranked, powerfully connected doctoral research university offering exceptional liberal arts and sciences programs and professional training with particular strength in its Core Four—Arts and Humanities, STEM and Social Sciences, the Business and Education Professions, and Health and Wellness. Adelphi is dedicated to transforming students’ lives through small classes, hands-on learning and innovative ways to support student success.

Founded in Brooklyn in 1896, Adelphi is Long Island’s oldest private coeducational university. Today Adelphi serves over 7,600 students at its beautiful main campus in Garden City, New York—just 23 miles from New York City’s cultural and internship opportunities—and at dynamic learning hubs in Manhattan, the Hudson Valley and Suffolk County, and online.

More than 100,000 Adelphi graduates have gained the skills to thrive professionally as active, caring citizens, making their mark on the University, their communities and the world beyond.

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