



**CHRISTINE M. RIORDAN, PHD
PRESIDENT**

Christine M. Riordan, PhD, is the 10th president of Adelphi University in New York, a top-ranked comprehensive university with nearly 7,600 students and close to 2,000 employees, a \$250 million operating budget, and a \$226 million endowment. Dr. Riordan is the first woman president in the University's 125-year history. She is recognized for her work to transform and personalize the higher education experience. With a strong record of accomplishment in driving growth and leading large-scale change, Dr. Riordan is **an established expert in leadership, team building, career success, and diversity, equity and inclusion**. She is also a **seasoned and respected board member** in the corporate and nonprofit sectors.

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Since her appointment in 2015, Dr. Riordan’s vision has transformed Adelphi into a nationally recognized modern metropolitan university. She spearheaded the development of the University’s strategic plan for 2015–2021, *Momentum*, throughout which time Adelphi has seen significant growth and progress. Under her leadership, enrollment has grown by 10 percent, the University community is more diverse than ever and more than 50 innovative new academic degree programs have launched. Dr. Riordan has overseen the \$50 million renovation of the Ruth S. Harley University Center and the opening of a \$76 million, 100,000-square-foot academic building that houses Adelphi’s top-ranked nursing school. Dr. Riordan also established Adelphi’s highly regarded Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and initiated a Diversity Certificate training program for its faculty, staff and surrounding community. Most notably, Dr. Riordan successfully led the University through two major turnarounds—the first in response to declining enrollment and the other in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adelphi continues gathering accolades under Dr. Riordan’s leadership. In 2021, for the third consecutive year, *U.S. News & World Report* named Adelphi a Best College among national universities and also named the University a Best College for Veterans, a Best Value School and a Top Performer on Social Mobility. The media powerhouse has ranked Adelphi’s College of Nursing and Public Health among the top 200 graduate programs for 2022. The University was included as a Top U.S. College by the *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* college rankings for three years, climbing in 2021 to the top 21 percent in the country. Princeton Review again ranked Adelphi among the Best Northeastern Colleges in 2021 and included the Robert B. Willumstad School of Business as a 2021 Best Business School. In 2020, Adelphi was the single national winner of the John L. Blackburn Exemplary Models Award from the American Association of University Administrators for its innovative career guidance program. Also in 2021, Adelphi received the *INSIGHT Into Diversity* Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award for the fourth year in a row—a national recognition given to only 90 colleges and universities in the country.

Dr. Riordan is a respected and experienced board member. She is chair of the board and serves on the executive committee for the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities in New York, the association for the more than 100 private colleges and universities in the state. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she co-chaired the Higher Education Restart Task Force to develop reopening guidance for more than 230 New York institutions of higher education. She is a trustee, serves on the

steering committee and is co-chair of the board of the Long Island Regional Advisory Council on Higher Education. She is a member of the board of directors of the Long Island Association (LIA), a leading business organization on Long Island, and is co-chair of the LIA's Women's Collaborative.

For more than six years, Dr. Riordan has served on the board of directors of RE/MAX Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: RMAX)—a leading real estate and franchise company—for which she is currently chair of the nominating and governance committee and serves on the compensation committee. Dr. Riordan is a National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD) Board Leadership Fellow, the Gold Standard Director Credential.

As an expert and influencer on leadership, team building, career success, and diversity, equity and inclusion, Dr. Riordan has researched, written about and consulted with corporations, senior executives and executive teams. She has published 70 academic and business press articles and is authoring a book titled *Shift Happens: How to Adapt and Thrive in a Rapidly Changing World of Work*. She has been interviewed by and written articles for media such as *The Financial Times*, the *Harvard Business Review*, *Forbes*, *USA Today*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *The New York Times*, the *International Herald Tribune*, *HuffPost*, MSNBC, CNN, CNBC, *The Wall Street Journal MarketWatch*, *CareerBuilder* and *Psychology Today*. Dr. Riordan's TEDx talk, "Dare to Be Extraordinary," has received more than 27,000 views and her work has been cited more than 6,400 times by other authors. She has appeared in the press on topics of leadership and higher education more than 180 times. Her work can be viewed at christineriordan.com.

Dr. Riordan's innovative leadership is widely recognized and honored. She received the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Chief Executive Leadership Award in 2021 and the ATHENA International Leadership Award in 2020. In 2019, Georgia State University honored her as a Distinguished Alumna. *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* magazine named her one of 25 Top Women in Higher Education Who Are Making a Difference in 2018. On Long Island, Dr. Riordan was awarded Best College President in 2017, 2019 and 2020 by the Bethpage Best of Long Island Awards. She has been named one of the most influential people on Long Island every year since 2016 by the *Long Island Press* and by City & State New York since 2018. She is also on the City & State New York Higher Education Power List for 2021. Long Island Business News lists Dr. Riordan among Who's Who in Education, Who's Who in Professional Women and Top CEOs.

Dr. Riordan previously served as provost of the University of Kentucky, which had more than 30,000 students, 19,000 employees and a \$3 billion budget. She was also dean of the Daniels College of Business at the University of Denver, a *U.S. News & World Report*-ranked Best Business School.

She received her MBA and a PhD in Organizational Behavior from Georgia State University and earned her bachelor's degree in Textile Engineering (now called Materials Science Engineering) from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr. Riordan is married to Robert (Bob) D. Gatewood, PhD, author of *Human Resource Selection* (8th ed.) and professor emeritus at the University of Georgia. They have two children, Mikaela and Mason, and an Olde English Bulldogge named Georgia.

You can connect with Dr. Riordan by email at president@adelphi.edu and on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @PrezRiordan.

About Adelphi

A modern metropolitan university with a personalized approach to higher learning

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

Recognized as a Best College by *U.S. News & World Report*, Adelphi is Long Island's oldest private coeducational university. It serves more than 7,500 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, as well as online.

To date, 118,000 Adelphi graduates have gained the skills to thrive professionally as active, engaged citizens, making their mark on the University, their communities and the world.

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