Dear Member of the Class of 2022:

Welcome to St. Bonaventure University. As your Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, my primary role is to ensure that you experience a vibrant, challenging, and engaging learning environment. With this in mind, I am assigning your first assignment as a student at St. Bonaventure.

You received a copy of the All Bonaventure Reads (ABR) book for 2018, Educated: A Memoir. The author, Dr. Tara Westover, will visit campus to discuss this book with you in the fall. It will also be a text for your SBU 101 course. When you read Educated this summer, we hope you will be inspired to reflect on the power of education to impact individuals and communities. After you finish reading the book, write a reflection essay. This essay is required for your SBU-101 seminar. Your topic is described below:

- Reflecting on examples from the book and your own experiences, write your essay discussing the question: What does it mean to be “educated?” Some questions you might think about when preparing your essay could include:
  - How and where does learning happen?
  - Who influences learning? How?
  - How can learning something new impact people?
  - How can attending college change people?
  - How can education affect a community? (A community could include a family, social group, town/city, etc.)
- You do not need to answer all of these questions but, hopefully, they can help you brainstorm or outline your essay.
- Your essay should be 500 – 750 words; be sure to include your full name at the top of the paper.
- Submit your essay as an attachment in MS Word by emailing it to: bonareads@sbu.edu

Your essay is due no later than Friday, August 17. We will send your essay to your SBU 101 instructor. Also, a team of faculty and staff will select the best essays among your class. Winners will have their essays published and be invited to an exclusive dinner with Dr. Westover.

I look forward to receiving your essay. Welcome to the exciting world of college thinking!

Sincerely,

Joseph E. Zimmer, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs