

To the HMS Community:

It is my pleasure to announce that over the next few months we will be inviting you to participate in a community values initiative where, together, we will explore the core values and principles that embody our work as members of the HMS community. HMS is a community of communities in which each member plays a vital role. By articulating our community values we will further define the strategies that fulfill our mission and guide our interactions with each other. The extraordinary work that you do as a member of our community matters, and this initiative is an opportunity to articulate our shared values and reflect upon how we engage on a daily basis “to create and nurture a diverse community of the best people committed to leadership in alleviating human suffering caused by disease.”

We know that many groups within our larger community have engaged in similar efforts in recent years. HMS' initiative is in no way intended to supplant those excellent efforts, but rather to learn from them, using them to identify and integrate common beliefs and themes.

Once we develop a statement of values, I am hopeful that these principles will be incorporated into the daily life of our community and that they will help cultivate a deeper sense of unity and collaboration.

Everyone will have the opportunity to participate in this process. We are currently establishing a committee made up of students, staff and faculty. This community values committee will seek input from the broader HMS community through a variety of means, which you will be hearing about more in the days to come. Your ideas will inform the values statement and guide us on how best to champion it.

I am hopeful you will want to be a part of this meaningful initiative. If you are interested in participating, or if you have ideas to suggest, please contact the project team at communityvalues@hms.harvard.edu.

I look forward to working with you and to your contributions to this exciting and important initiative.

Sincerely,
John

John Czajkowski
Executive Dean for Administration
Harvard Medical School