

Dear friends,

It is with deep admiration and mixed emotions that I write to you today to share that Humanist Chaplain and Assistant Director of the University Chaplaincy, Walker Bristol, A14, will be leaving Tufts University on June 11, 2021 for a new position in healthcare chaplaincy. Walker will be entering an expanded role as a Staff Chaplain at Brigham and Women's Hospital, continuing towards their future goals as a chaplain educator.

Walker joined our community in 2014 as Humanist in Residence while they were a student at Harvard Divinity School. In 2018, following the completion of their Master of Divinity degree, they were appointed the first Humanist Chaplain here at Tufts University.



*Walker Bristol, A14  
Humanist Chaplain*

Walker has served as one of the only university-funded Humanist chaplains in American higher education, and has had a profound impact on our community. Their lasting contributions to our community include:

- Serving as the first Humanist Chaplain at Tufts and working alongside student leaders to create and sustain a thriving Humanity Community at Tufts (HCAT)
- Articulating a Humanist perspective within our multifaith chaplaincy
- Leading a strategic working group on pastoral care, a key component to our mission, and convening innovative professional dialogues around critical issues in pastoral care and Humanism
- Supporting students' coordination of the Pet Loss Hotline and developing education resources related to grief and pet loss for Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine
- Supporting students as a confidential resource and advocate as the CARE Center Liaison
- Strengthening collaborative partnerships with the LGBT Center and the SMFA for Trans Day of Remembrance
- Providing leadership and mentoring to the whole University Chaplaincy team in their role as Assistant Director

Walker's trustworthy presence and ministry with us will be thoroughly missed. They have been a deeply thoughtful colleague who has helped us to refine and clarify the work of supporting students in the university while building robust and meaningful campus partnerships. We are so proud of the impact they will have in the world of healthcare chaplaincy, and in the formation of spiritual care professionals.

Please join us on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. ET for a virtual gathering to thank Walker and wish them well as they begin a new role within chaplaincy and a new phase of their leadership in healthcare. Zoom details are below and on [our website](#).

I am pleased to share that the search process for a new Humanist Chaplain is underway, with an anticipated start date of August 1, 2021.

Pax et lux,

Rev. Elyse Nelson Winger  
University Chaplain

Zoom Meeting ID: 925 6730 2564  
Zoom Meeting Passcode: 085835

Tufts University Chaplaincy | Goddard Chapel, 3 The Green | Medford, MA 02155 USA  
[chaplaincy.tufts.edu](http://chaplaincy.tufts.edu) | [chaplaincy@tufts.edu](mailto:chaplaincy@tufts.edu) | 617.627.3427

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