



Tufts

UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 3.30.22



A Reflection from our Buddhist Chaplain

Along with my path of service as a chaplain, I also serve as liaison to Tufts' new Generous Listening and Dialogue Center (GLADC), which has, as its mission, the cultivation of generous listening—the capacity to listen, be present, and receive different perspectives. There are three aspects of the art of generous listening: listening to ourselves, listening to others and listening to nature.

Given recent current events—the war in Ukraine, as well as the patterns of domination and oppression expressed through racism and multiple forms of othering-- it would seem that the technological advances of this century have given us greater mastery of the physical world, without requisite co-development of the heart. Practices of listening from the heart, which are cultivated through a variety of contemplative traditions, can foster social-emotional intelligence. Eleanor Rosch (2016) a cognitive psychologist at UC Berkeley, refers to this kind of generous listening as “primary knowing”, a quality of knowing in which the mind is descended into the heart. The foundation is listening to ourselves—cultivating unconditional awareness of our own body and mind. This, then, makes it possible to extend presence and generous listening to others, to be comfortable with discomfort, and accept non-closure.

These qualities of presence were brought home to me one ordinary day when, after a morning of discussing generous listening, I walked out into the snowy day to get lunch. Amid the snowdrifts was a blind man who had misplaced his steps. Accompanying him to the bus stop, I became aware of how our individual contextual experience creates our world. Our relationships with others and the world, and our way of knowing is embodied, and situated, in our own lived experience. This insight was vividly brought home to me as we walked together. The experience was different than any conceptual understanding: it was a bit of a dance. There were sounds he was attuned to, that I had not heard, and there was also information that I needed to relay to him as we navigated the still-falling snow. In those moments of attunement, he found the meditation teacher he was looking for, and I met a new neighbor. It reminded me that, even amidst a busy Tufts day, when we pause to listen generously, the miracle of human connection is revealed in the here-and-now.

The Generous Listening and Dialogue Center is currently planning an event for Earth Day. We look forward to sharing more about this in the days to come.

All the best,

Ji Hyang Padma
Buddhist Chaplain

Rosch, Eleanor (2016) as cited in Senge, P. and Schwärmer, O. (2016). *Theory U: Leading from the future as it emerges*. Berrett-Koehler Publishers.



Thank you to all those who attended the Russell Lecture on Spiritual Life and Solomont Speaker Series: Valarie Kaur! The recording of Valarie Kaur's keynote will be available on our website soon.



**Congratulations to our 2022 Wendell Phillips Speaker,
René LaPointe Jameson, E22!**

René La Pointe Jameson is a senior Balfour Scholar and Tisch Scholar at Tufts University. Passionate about environmental justice and health equity, René studies environmental engineering with a self-designed focus on race and justice. She uses engineering to address environmental racism and advance health in communities of color. René has been community organizing since she was 14; she mobilized dozens of her peers to build community gardens, host food drives, create care packages for homeless shelters, and more. Today, with the nonprofit Building Audacity, René coordinates a food distribution program that serves over 650 families in Greater Boston. She also co-directs the design and development of a community hydroponics center which is fully funded by a co-earned \$20,000+ Tufts University Green Fund Grant. René was an ambassador of The Jane Goodall Institute for six years, is a CDC Undergraduate Public Health Scholar, and received the Tufts University Presidential Award for Civic Life in 2021.



Ramadan at Tufts

Saturday, April 2 - Sunday, May 1

Ramadan, the holy month of fasting for Muslims, will begin on Saturday April 2nd and continue until Sunday, May 1st this year. Ramadan is a time for introspection, devotion, and service, as well as time for communal worship and cooperation. The significance of Ramadan is highlighted in the Qur'an in Chapter 2, Verse 183: "Oh you who believe, fasting has been prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those who came before you, so that you can become conscious of God." Those observing Ramadan abstain from food and drink from dawn until sunset each day. After sunset, the fast is traditionally broken with dates and a drink, after which the evening prayer is performed. In the late evening, Muslims often gather for congregational night prayers at the mosque or in homes, sometimes offering prayers deep into the night. The pre-dawn meal is then eaten before starting a new fast the following day. The end of Ramadan is marked by the holiday of Eid-ul-Fitr, which will take place this year on May 2, 2022. Sometimes there is variation in the exact start and end dates of Ramadan, depending on how Muslims interpret the lunar calendar each year. [For more information about Ramadan at Tufts, including information about dining, iftars, prayers, and academic accommodations you can click here.](#)

Share Your Hopes and Interests For our New Africana Spirituality Chaplain!

Follow the link in our bio to chime in!



Share your hopes for the new Africana Spirituality Chaplain

Survey open now

This spring, the Tufts University Chaplaincy will hire a new Africana Spirituality Chaplain. The Africana Spirituality Chaplaincy, first established in 2017, seeks to create a comfortable space at Tufts for all students, staff and faculty, especially those of the African Diaspora, to grow in worship, fellowship, and community. The chaplain will be a member of the multifaith University Chaplaincy team and work in collaboration with campus partners to support and celebrate Afro-indigenous and Afro-diasporic traditions and communities. The chaplain will work with the Africana Center and offer collaborative programs and will build relationships and actively engage with the existing communities across Tufts' campuses. You can [take the survey here](#).

Take the Survey

Upcoming Signature Programs



The Tufts Humanist Chaplaincy +
The Tufts Hindu Chaplaincy
invite you to attend

the unlearning retreat 2022:

THE WAY WE BE.

we are **storæe michele + Jé Exodus-**
creative, free thinking theological and
congregation-based organizers.

our areas of study are inclusive of
community-based performance, multi-
media production, + wordsmithing. our
research integrates critical race + queer
theory, ritual theatre, and decolonizing
language + embodiment, which lends to
our community-based art practice.

what is your truth?
how do you tap into the worth of knowing?

let us journey together, as we reorient our
personhood and imagine ourselves
unearthing the quiet confidence within.

in this Unlearning Retreat, join us in a
practice of personal and communal
freedom-making.

10:30AM TO 4:00PM
INTERFAITH CENTER
(58 WINTHROP, MEDFORD MA)
SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022



this gathering will be guided through a series of mini-workshops
featuring storytelling through poetry, film, song, folklore,
communal soundscapes and participant's creation of short
speculative rituals.

follow us on IG: @storæe.michele + @ethicalevangelist.

RSVP here:



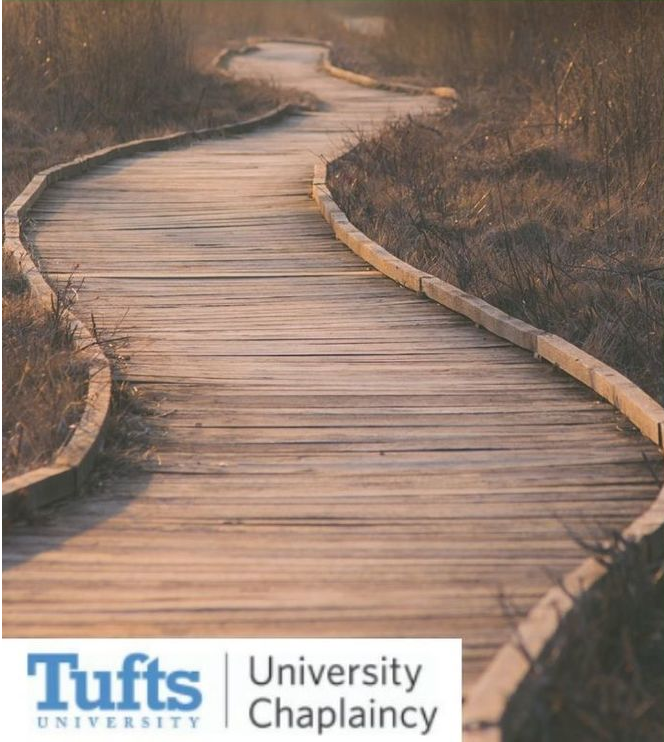
The Unlearning Retreat 2022: The Way We Be

Saturday, April 2, 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Interfaith Center

The second annual Unlearning Retreat is hosted this year by the Tufts Humanist Chaplaincy and the Tufts Hindu Chaplaincy. This year's theme, the way we be, will ask what you what your truth is, and bring storæe michele and Jé Hooper to the Interfaith Center on Saturday, April 2. You can RSVP using the QR code on the poster and reach out to Hindu Advisor [Preeta Banerjee](#) with any questions or accessibility needs. The tentative registration deadline is Thursday, March 31, at 7:00 p.m. ET.

This gathering will be guided through a series of mini-workshops featuring storytelling through poetry, film, song, folklore, communal soundscapes and participant's creation of short speculative rituals. This is a retreat for any spectrum of individuals who identify as BIPOC and are undergrad or master students.

Adventuring to Advocacy: Finding our paths to environmental justice



April 10

10:30-3:30

Interfaith Center

*Come join us for a journey
to explore our individual
paths to climate justice.
Lunch will be provided!
All Identities welcome.*

*RSVP
HERE:*



Adventuring to Advocacy: Finding our paths to environmental justice

Sunday, April 10, 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Come join us for a day-long journey exploring our individual paths to climate justice. Through developing our stories, connecting to local organizations, and engaging with the worldviews of your friends and neighbors, begin to imagine your role in the advocacy needed in the fight for climate justice here on Tufts Campus and beyond. By working to understand the varied approaches to environmental salvation taken by activists and faith leaders alike, this workshop hopes to root us in our home and grow us into the change we wish to see. Hosted by the Tufts University Chaplaincy Interfaith Ambassador Program.

Religious and Philosophical Programs

Kalyānamitta: A Good Friend

Opening Friday, April 1, 2-3 PM Edwin Gallery
2nd Floor A-side Stairwell SMFA, 20 Fenway, Boston MA



Come celebrate friendship and the artwork of Kiara Reagan '22, Kat Guzman '26, and Muri Mascarenhas '25. Inspired by Jātaka Stories from the Theravada Buddhist tradition, these student artists have drawn from their own lives and the richness of friendship stories from the Buddha. A project conceived by Venerable Mahayaya Vineetha of the University Chaplaincy and in collaboration with SMFA and Project Connect of CMHS.



Kalyanamitta: A Good Friend Opening

Friday, April 1, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., Edwin Gallery SMFA

Come celebrate friendship and the artwork of Kiara Reagan '22, Kat Guzman '22, and Muri Mascarenhas '25. Inspired by Jataka Stories from the Therevada Buddhist traditions, these student artists have drawn from their own lives and the richness of friendship stories from the Buddha. A project conceived by Venerable Mahayaya Vineetha of the University Chaplaincy and in collaboration with SMFA and Project Connect of CMHS.

FOOD & FAITH

A PEOPLE'S SUPPER

MONDAY, APRIL 4

Join us for dinner, conversation and community about ritual and cultural foods across traditions

7:30 to 8:45 PM
100 Rabb Room, Barnum Hall

There will be space for folks observing Ramadan to pray and break their fast.



RSVP by 12 pm
on Monday



Dinner will be provided.

Sponsored by Interfaith Student Council, COFFEE Interfaith Student Coalition, The Palmier, and the Religion, Law and Diplomacy Student Club

THE
PEOPLE'S
SUPPER

Tufts University
UNIVERSITY Chaplaincy

Food & Faith: A People's Supper

Monday, April 4 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m., 100 Rabb Room in Barnum Hall

Join the Interfaith Student Council, COFFEE Interfaith Student Coalition, The Palmier, and the Religion, Law and Diplomacy Student Club for a shared meal in the style of The People's Supper. Please RSVP through the QR code above, and come for good conversation! Dinner will be provided, and there will be space for those observing Ramadan to pray and break their fast.

MISSION:JOY FILM SCREENING AND DINNER CONVERSATION

Monday, April 4, 6-8 p.m., Paige Hall 113 (The Crane Room)



Join us to watch and discuss *Mission: JOY*, a film about His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. With science and wisdom, these unlikely friends invite us to live with joy, even in troubled times. We welcome students, faculty, and staff! [RSVP to Daniel.Bell@tufts.edu](mailto:Daniel.Bell@tufts.edu) for meal-planning purposes.

Sponsored by Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha, Buddhist Chaplaincy, Protestant Students Association, and Protestant Chaplaincy.



Mission: Joy Film Screening and Dinner Conversation

Monday, April 4, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Paige Hall 113

Join us to watch and discuss *Mission: JOY*, a film about His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. With science and wisdom, these unlikely friends invite us to live with joy, even in troubled times. We Welcome students, faculty, and staff! RSVP to Dan Bell for meal-planning purposes.

Sponsored by Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha, Buddhist Chaplaincy, Protestant Students Association, and Protestant Chaplaincy.

Muslim Chaplaincy
Buddhist Chaplaincy
Hindu Chaplaincy presents...

Interweaving Wisdoms

Finding common threads in our Sacred Texts

First Session: April 14, 11:00-12:00pm

Join us on zoom for the first of a series to explore three universal themes that flow across the sacred texts of Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism.

Each session we will explore a unique theme:

- The interplay of the body, mind and spirit
- Art and expression as spirituality
- Navigating grief and joy

Participants are invited to share a text on that theme and a discussion prompt for the group.

Open to all campuses, students, staff and faculty.

Please RSVP through the QR code below and indicate if you are interested in sharing a text and a brief reflection on it (5min).

Registered participants will receive a zoom link for the event.



SCAN ME

If you have any questions, contact najiba.akbar@tufts.edu

Artwork: "Arrival" by tapestry artist Marion Cragg



Interweaving Wisdoms: Finding common threads in our Sacred Texts

First session: Thursday, April 14, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Held virtually

Join us on zoom for the first of a series to explore three universal themes that flow across the sacred texts of Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism. Each session we will explore a unique theme: the interplay of the body, mind, and spirit, art and expression as spirituality, and navigating grief and joy. Participants are invited to share a text on that theme and a discussion prompt for the group. Open to all campuses, students, staff, and faculty. Please RSVP through the QR code above and indicate if you are interested in sharing a text and a brief reflection on it (5 minutes). Registered participants will receive the zoom link for the event. If you have any questions, contact [Najiba Akbar](mailto:najiba.akbar@tufts.edu).

Partner Programs

UNDERGRADS: DO YOU IDENTIFY
AS AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

Want \$5 in JumboCash?

Join the I-Center dialogues on
*Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and
Justice* at Tufts. Register now!



[https://tinyurl.com/
DEIJdialogues](https://tinyurl.com/DEIJdialogues)

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM
YOU ABOUT YOUR
EXPERIENCES WITH TUFTS
DEIJ AS AN INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT. THE FIRST 20
UNDERGRAD STUDENTS TO
REGISTER WILL RECEIVE \$5
IN JUMBOCASH.

Experiences shared in dialogues will
not be attributed to individuals.
Anonymous stories will be shared
with the I-Center to help inform DEIJ
policy changes that better serve
international students.



I-Center Dialogues on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice at Tufts

Register by Friday, April 1

Calling all international students! The International Center wants to hear from you about your experiences with Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice at Tufts: Do you feel included in academic offerings, campus resources, and social experiences? Have you been treated differently because of your national origin? What are your perceptions of equity and equal opportunity at Tufts? What are your sources of support? What are your barriers and obstacles? You're invited to participate in a small-group dialogue on Diversity, Equity, inclusion, and Justice at Tufts. The first 20 undergraduates to register will receive \$5 in JumboCash and the first 10 graduate students to register will receive a \$10 Visa gift card. Sessions will be held virtually on Zoom with breakout groups of up to 10 participants and will run no longer than 90 minutes. The dialogues seek to determine how the I-Center and Tufts Administration can ensure Tufts is an inclusive and welcoming place for all students - including international students. Experiences shared in dialogues will not be attributed to individuals (Chatham House Rules). Anonymous stories will be shared with the I-Center to help inform DEIJ policy changes that better serve international students. When registering, please indicate a first and second choice of date/time. Please hold both

times on your calendar until you receive a confirmation email on Sunday, April 3. All questions may be directed to [Diana Haber-Daws](#). You can register [here](#).

[Register Here](#)



SAPAC Symposium

Saturday, April 9, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., SEC Atrium

South Asian Political Action Committee invites you to attend the annual SAPAC Symposium to enjoy featured performances, visual art, and academic work or research by members of the Tufts South Asian community.



THE AFRICANA
CENTER

Tufts
UNIVERSITY



2nd Annual



**BLACK WOMEN'S
EMPOWERMENT
CONFERENCE**

Radical Self-Love

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022

LOCATION: HYBRID

@ TUFTS UNIVERSITY MEDFORD, MA

Hybrid conference: in-person or virtual option.
Registration is FREE and open to all Black women
undergraduate and graduate students attending a
university in the Northeast and beyond!

REGISTER NOW: [BWEC2022.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bwec2022)

Questions? Contact us at bwec@tufts.edu

2nd Annual Black Women's Empowerment Conference: Radical Self-Love

Saturday, April 9, in person at Tufts and Virtual

We are excited to announce the upcoming Black Women's Empowerment Conference (BWEC) held by the Tufts University Africana Center this spring. Our 2nd annual Black Women's Empowerment Conference is a one-day hybrid event scheduled for April 9, 2022, and is open and free to all Black women and femme undergraduate and graduate students attending an institute of higher education in the Northeast and across the United States.

The theme for the 2022 BWEC is Radical Self-Love. Our goal is to inspire conversations about care for oneself and one's community and to uplift Black women by holding in-person and virtually accessible lectures, panels, and workshops featuring Black women scholars, industry professionals, and influencers. [You can RSVP here](#). For our other socials, [you can visit here](#). If you have any questions [please contact us here](#).

Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities

A Week of Events and Experiences on the Connections between Spirituality, Social Justice, and DEI: Inaugural Lecture on Spirituality and Social Justice by Dr. Anthea Butler

Wednesday, March 30, 4:30 p.m. ET, held virtually

The Foglio Speaker Series on Spirituality is thrilled to announce the Inaugural Lecture on Spirituality and Social Justice by Dr. Anthea Butler. The lecture will be dedicated to exploring the connections between spirituality, social justice, anti-racism work, and DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusivity). If you have any questions, suggestions, comments, or difficulties registering, please contact [Morgan Shipley](#). Register for the Zoom [here](#).

The graphic features a blue background with a yellow curved border on the left. At the top, the title "LAZINESS AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE" is written in large, bold, yellow and white letters. Below the title is a small portrait of Rabbi Elliot Kula, a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a brown jacket. To the right of the portrait, a quote in white cursive reads: "Let's begin to uncover how to integrate rest into our own lives and spiritual practices." Below the quote, it says "Presented by: Rabbi Elliot Kula". At the bottom left, a pink arrow points right with the text "Webinar: April 7, 3PM Eastern" and "ChaplaincyInnovation.org". At the bottom right, there are logos for Cedars Sinai and CHAPLAINCY Innovation Lab.

Laziness as a Spiritual Practice

Thursday, April 7, 3:00 p.m., ET

In this session we will explore, with Rabbi Elliot Kukla, rest as a liberatory spiritual practice that can help us heal as individuals, strengthen loving relationships, and create a more sustainable future. We will begin by discussing the racist and exploitative origins of the stigma surrounding the term "lazy." Next we will explore sources on rest from Disability Justice activists, ancient Jewish folk wisdom on the sabbath, as well as contemporary rest activists like the Nap Bishop. Finally, we will begin to uncover how to integrate rest into our own lives and spiritual practices. Hosted by Chaplaincy Innovation Lab. [You can find out more here](#).



Unpacking Whiteness: A Consciousness Raising Dialogue Series for Graduate Students

Unpacking Whiteness: A Consciousness Raising Dialogue Series for Graduate Students

Registration Deadline: Friday, April 8

All graduate students at Tufts are invited to sign up for the 6-week Unpacking Whiteness Dialogue Series. Unpacking Whiteness creates a space for participants to find community and support in learning and understanding how to practice anti-racism in their daily lives. Anti-racism is an active and ongoing process of identifying and eliminating racism by changing systems, organizational structures, policies, practices, and attitudes in a way that redistributes power, policy, and structures to be more equitable, while drawing attention to the lived experiences of Black people, Indigenous people, and people of color.

All sessions are led by a Tufts graduate student facilitator. Our facilitators seek to create a space where people can speak with candor about their personal experiences with race, racism, and Whiteness. Each session is 90-minutes long and groups will meet for six consecutive weeks. In addition to attending six 90-minute dialogues sessions, participants are provided with 3-5 readings/videos/podcasts, and accompanying reflection questions ahead of each week's session. This is a virtual series and group sessions will take place on Zoom. If you have any questions, please reach out to [Maddie Key](#).

Apply to be an LGBT Center Intern

The LGBT Center is looking for new undergrad interns for the 2022-2023 academic year!

Interns provide programming and general support for the LGBT Center and community.

Compensation: \$15/hour, approx. 4-8 hours/week

Priority deadline: April 10th

Learn more & apply at
go.tufts.edu/LGBTintern



Apply to be an LGBT Center Intern

Priority Deadline: Sunday, April 10

The LGBT Center is excited to be hiring interns for the 2022-2023 academic year. LGBT Center interns are a team of undergraduate students committed to furthering the values and work of the LGBT Center. Our interns have creative freedom to work on projects and use their skills how they like. They work in collaboration with each other, the LGBT Center professional staff, and other students/departments to serve the LGBTQ+ community at Tufts, with all of its intersecting identities, by developing various programs, resources, and events. All undergrads who will be at Tufts for the duration of the 2022-2023 academic year are welcome to apply, including students at the SMFA. For more information, please read through the Intern Application Form. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [Joel Gutierrez](mailto:Joel.Gutierrez@tufts.edu), Assistant Director. [Visit here to apply.](#)

Upcoming Religious Celebrations and Observances

These events are drawn from the multifaith calendar maintained by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Harvard Divinity School. To see more upcoming religious holidays and festivals, please follow the link to the [Harvard Divinity School calendar](#).

Great Lent

Mon., Mar. 7 – Sat., Apr. 23, 2022

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

In Orthodox churches, the first day of Lent marks the beginning of the Great Fast, the final six weeks of a 10-week

period leading up to Holy Week and Easter (Pascha). In the churches that follow the Gregorian calendar, Lent is a six-week observance (40 days excluding Sundays) beginning with Ash Wednesday and culminating in Holy Week. It is a time of repentance and sacrifice in preparation for Easter.

Ramadan

Fri., Apr. 1 – Sun., May 1, 2022

Tradition: Islam

The Holy Month of Ramadan is the month of fasting during which Muslims who are physically able do not eat or drink from the first sign of dawn until sunset in honor of the first revelations to the Prophet Muhammad. The evening meal is celebrated with family.

Anniversary of the Founding of the Church

Wed., Apr. 6, 2022

Tradition: Latter Day Saints

Annual World General Conference of the Church held on Saturday and Sunday closest to this date each year.

Palm Sunday

Sun., Apr. 10, 2022

Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic

Celebrates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, marking the beginning of Holy Week that culminates in Easter or Pascha. In some churches, Palm Sunday is combined with the anticipation of Christ's death and so is also known as "Passion Sunday." Orthodox Christians often observe this Sunday on a date different from the date on which Protestant and Roman Catholics observe it.

Ramanavami

Sun., Apr. 10, 2022

Tradition: Hinduism

Celebrates the birthday of Rama, the seventh incarnation of the God Vishnu. The Ramayana, one of the Hindu epics that tells the story of Rama, is read during the previous eight days.

Support the University Chaplaincy

Supporting dynamic programs at Tufts University in religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life is easy and vital to our work. To donate, please click on the button below. Thank you for your generosity.

Give Today

ABOUT US

The University Chaplaincy is a dynamic hub supporting religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life for all members of the Tufts community. We provide pastoral care, support religious and philosophical communities, educate about spiritual and ethical issues in society and the world, and promote multifaith engagement.

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