

Hello Everyone –

I hope the first week back into the swing of lectures, labs, and clinicals has been **successful, safe, and healthy!** As we move into the semester, I wanted to take a moment and provide you with some resources to support our students.

First, if you do not know me, I'm Kristen Porter, **Director of Career, Professional Development, and Retention**, I am here to support you and our students in areas of **career development**, such as resumes, cover letters, interview skills and preparation, along with professionalism and other career services. I also provide in **student success/retention**, with support through early-alerts, success workshops/tools, food pantry and other resources. The **Early Alert Referral System (EARS)** is the best way for you to identify at-risk students and your concerns about a student with me.

The **EAR** (<https://mercycollege.edu/forms/early-alert-referral>) is the best way to alert me to potential students at-risk for failure or withdrawing. Once an **EAR** is submitted, I work with the Student Success Center (Advisors, Tutors, and Counselors) to ensure support is provided to students. There are several reasons an **EAR** should be submitted for a student, such as:

- ✓ Missing class/lectures/labs
- ✓ Missing assignments
- ✓ Poor exam/quiz grades
- ✓ Sudden decline in participation/attendance
- ✓ Mental Health Concerns
- ✓ Financial problems
- ✓ College adjustment issues
- ✓ And many other concerns

Dr. Dan French and I also developed a Retention Module in MTaLC on Canvas, to provide you with more information, including a video on submitting an **EAR** form. [The link to the retention course is here.](#)

For questions, please contact me at Kristen.porter1@mercycollege.edu or 419.251.1339.

Important Links:

[Retention in 5 minutes!](#)

[Early Alert Referral System Form](#)

[Classroom Presentation Request Form](#)