

NEWS

Dr. Anthony Fauci, face of COVID-19 response, to have name on building at alma mater Holy Cross



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WORCESTER — The Integrated Science Complex at the College of the Holy Cross will be renamed this summer after one of the college's most prominent graduates — Dr. Anthony Fauci.

The change in name to the Anthony S. Fauci Integrated Science Complex will take place June 11, during Fauci's 60th Holy Cross class reunion weekend.

Fauci received his undergraduate degree from Holy Cross in 1962.

“Dr. Fauci vividly personifies the distinctive characteristics of a Holy Cross education, and we know his life and work are already inspiring the next generation of empathetic servant leaders,” Holy Cross President Vincent D. Rougeau said in a release Monday.

Fauci, who was a classics major with a premedical concentration at the college, is the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

He became a household name in 2020, when people looked to his guidance and expertise as the COVID-19 pandemic emerged.

He shared a podium with President Donald Trump and was a frequent guest on TV news shows in the early months of COVID-19. His approach to battling the virus and his standing as the public health spokesman have drawn criticism in some circles.

Fauci spoke virtually to Holy Cross graduates at the 2020 commencement.

In a statement to the Telegram & Gazette, Fauci said he was “honored and extremely humbled” to have the complex renamed after him.

“I have been very privileged in receiving a number of recognitions over my more than 50 years as a physician/scientist,” Fauci said. “However, this recognition by Holy Cross, the place where it all started for me with the outstanding pre-med training I received here superimposed on a broader classics curriculum, ranks at the very top of them all.”

The Integrated Science Complex, with a \$64 million price tag, was dedicated in 2010.

“It’s fitting that Dr. Fauci’s name will adorn a complex designed to foster integrated learning across multiple academic disciplines — the kind of broad, collaborative and holistic thinking one needs to manage health crises such as HIV/AIDS, Ebola and Zika, or the current COVID-19 pandemic,” Rougeau said.