Hello Colleagues,

As we mentioned in the last spotlight, this summer we are going to do some deeper dives on specific Divisional initiatives. This week's Spotlight focuses on Orientation and Baylor Line Camp, as the Division and the entire campus prepare to welcome our newest Bears to campus this summer. We are deeply thankful for the ability once again to fully embrace in-person welcome experiences for new students!

ORIENTATION AND BAYLOR LINE CAMP

A great deal of attention this year has been given to creating more opportunities for students to participate in summer programs. Each of the 11 on-campus sessions of Baylor Line Camp is combined with Orientation, resulting in space for roughly 3,000 new students to attend both programs in one visit. There are also 12 sessions of Orientation—up from the traditional 10—and both programs are offered throughout June and July.

Along with increased capacity, emphasis has also been placed on access to Orientation and Camp. We are excited that transfer students are able to attend Orientation for the first time. There are also fee waiver opportunities available to first-generation students and those with demonstrated financial need, making the Camp experience more accessible to a greater number of students.

As you may recall, a shift has been made in recent years toward virtual academic advising for entering students, rather than in-person advising conducted at Orientation. In addition to a number of benefits to both students and advisors, that change has provided opportunities to think in fresh ways about the Orientation program schedule. We have intentionally focused on creating a schedule that feels less rushed, that is less geographically spread out, and that—hopefully—provides a more engaging overall experience.

There is also a broadening range of resources available to entering students to both enhance and extend beyond in-person programs. All new students are expected to begin by completing a set of online modules called Foundations that introduces them to essential knowledge as a new Baylor student. An extensive Orientation booklet has been created this year as a supplemental resource, providing quick access to information relevant during the program and beyond. Finally, a Virtual Orientation experience will provide access to video recordings, serving those unable to attend in-person as well as any new students or family members who may want to revisit content from Orientation. To see an example of last year’s virtual orientation, click here.

The New Student Programs team is incredibly appreciative of the tremendous efforts from the entire Division of Student Life to support Orientation and Baylor Line Camp and serve new students and their guests!

MOMENTS

This summer, Baylor New Student Programs will help to transition more than 3,000 students from being “prospectives” into their important place in “That Good Old Baylor Line.”

To view past Spotlight E-mails, click HERE.

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