

## Welcome Week FAQ's: Faculty & Staff

### What is Welcome Week?

Welcome Week is a six-day, on-campus experience prior to the start of the fall semester, required of all first-year students. This new program is part of the University of Minnesota's strategic positioning plan to be one of the top three public research universities in the world.

### What is the purpose of Welcome Week?

Welcome Week is designed to engage the campus community in creating a meaningful University experience that will help first-year students:

- Build a sense of community
- Adjust to campus environment, life, and diverse culture
- Develop meaningful relationships with faculty, staff, community members and other students
- Discover and access a multitude of resources
- Provide leadership opportunities for upperclass students

### What will happen during Welcome Week?

- Wednesday, August 27: Welcome to the U -- Move-In & Convocation
- Thursday, August 28: College Day -- Activities coordinated by colleges
- Friday, August 29: University & Self-Exploration -- Interest sessions, resource sessions, campus (East Bank, West Bank, and St. Paul) exploration
- Saturday, August 30: Community Day -- Side trips exploring the Twin Cities
- Sunday, August 31: Community Service Day -- Service projects giving back to the community
- Monday, September 1: Prepare for Classes -- Wrap up activities

### How can I be involved in Welcome Week as a faculty or staff member?

There will be many opportunities for faculty and staff to volunteer and welcome new students to campus during Welcome Week. Some of these opportunities are listed below. You will be able to sign up for these opportunities through an online form this summer.

- New Student Move-In (Wednesday, August 27, 2008)
- New Student Convocation (Wednesday, August 27, 2008)
- College Day Activities (Thursday, August 28, 2008)
- Presentations/Panels
- Community Service Projects (Sunday, August 31, 2008)
- Information Tents (all week)

### I am a faculty member, how can I be involved in my college's programming during Welcome Week?

The colleges will need faculty members to assist with College Day programming on Thursday, August 28, 2008. If you would like to help your college please contact the appropriate person below:

CBS: Jean Underwood, Assistant Dean, [jmunder@umn.edu](mailto:jmunder@umn.edu)

CDES: Kate Maple, Assistant Dean, [kmaple@umn.edu](mailto:kmaple@umn.edu)

CEHD: Jennifer Engler, Associate Director, [engle009@umn.edu](mailto:engle009@umn.edu)

CFANS: Bill Ganzlin, Director, [bganzlin@umn.edu](mailto:bganzlin@umn.edu)

CLA: Natalie Eschenbaum, Freshman & Sophomore Programs Coord.  
[nprestwich@class.cla.umn.edu](mailto:nprestwich@class.cla.umn.edu)

CSOM: Linda Millington, Assistant Program Director, [l-shep@umn.edu](mailto:l-shep@umn.edu)

IT: Ann Pineles, Student Services, [pinel001@umn.edu](mailto:pinel001@umn.edu)

### **How will Welcome Week affect Graduate Student Orientation?**

Orientation & First-Year Programs coordinates both Welcome Week and Graduate Student Orientation. Graduate Student Orientation will be held on August 18, 20 and 21. For more information please go to [www.ofyp.umn.edu](http://www.ofyp.umn.edu). There may also be graduation student orientations specific to individual departments. For more information on these programs, please contact the department directly.

### **How will Welcome Week affect space available on-campus for my department or college's needs?**

Welcome Week is a large-scale program that will be utilizing many spaces on all three of the campus areas (West Bank, East Bank and St. Paul) from Wednesday, August 27 through Monday, September 1, 2008. The times and locations of Welcome Week events vary throughout the week. It is recommended that any space your department or college may need be reserved as far ahead of time as possible. You can find a copy of the Welcome Week schedule at [www.welcomeweek.umn.edu](http://www.welcomeweek.umn.edu).

### **Will University Dining Services still be able to cater my departmental event during Welcome Week?**

As University Dining Services will be very busy during Welcome Week, it is recommended that you submit any catering requests you might have as soon as possible to make sure your needs can be met.

### **How will Welcome Week affect office hours around campus?**

Many offices around campus may have irregular office hours during Welcome Week due to programming needs and staff availability. This will be especially true on Thursday, August 28 and Friday, August 29. If you plan on utilizing an office or campus resource it is recommended that you contact that office ahead of time to find out their hours.

### **How will Welcome Week, the Minnesota State Fair, and the Republican National Convention affect my commute to campus?**

The Minnesota State Fair will be taking place at the same time as Welcome Week. The Republican National Convention takes place Monday, September 1 through Thursday, September 4, however preparations for it will begin as early as Friday, August 29. It is recommended that faculty and staff utilize public transit during Welcome Week. Congestion around the East Bank, West Bank and St. Paul campus will be especially congested during New Student Move-in on Wednesday, August 27, 2008. Due to limited parking and to ease traffic, faculty and staff are asked to plan accordingly, be patient, and find alternative ways to campus (bus, bike, etc) on this day.

**How will Welcome Week affect the workshops hosted by the Center for Teaching & Learning for faculty and graduate students in my department?**

The Center for Teaching & Learning will still be hosting their Teaching Enrichment Series on August 25, 27 and 28, 2008. For the most updated information on this series please go to [www1.umn.edu/ohr/teachlearn/faculty/enrichment/index.html](http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/teachlearn/faculty/enrichment/index.html).

The workshops on August 28 will overlap with the College Activities in the Welcome Week programming. Please contact your Welcome Week college contact if you have concerns about this overlapping time commitment.

**Visit [www.welcomeweek.umn.edu](http://www.welcomeweek.umn.edu) for more details regarding Welcome Week.**