

Dear Incoming Simmons Student,

As Mother Nature finally decides to give us summer, it is time to get ready for the start of the Fall semester. We are excited to have you join us on campus very soon for Orientation, which will begin on Sunday, August 30th and continue through Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> which is the first day of classes. Orientation is a great time to become acquainted with fellow students, faculty, staff and resources available to you during your time at Simmons. Adapting to college life, balancing academics and co-curricular activities can be daunting, but Simmons has the resources to help you succeed. However, you must also take the initiative to advocate for yourself, as reflected in this year's theme: Simmons: Step Up to Your Future.

Because we understand the unique challenges of a Dix Scholars schedule, we are committed to making your Orientation experience as flexible as possible. Dix Scholars are encouraged to attend the sessions that best fit their schedules. In order to help us best plan for your attendance at Fall Orientation, please complete the following survey: ([http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=coYxnDxTcgfEmwJbqlrAAQ\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=coYxnDxTcgfEmwJbqlrAAQ_3d_3d))

### **Orientation Check-in**

You can check-in for Orientation and receive your Orientation Materials at any of the following times:

- Sunday, August 30, 2009, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Alumnae Hall, Residence Please see the map on the following page (<http://www.simmons.edu/visit/maps/residence.shtml>) for the location of check-in.
- Monday, August 31, 2009, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., First Floor Lobby, Main College Building
- Tuesday, September 1, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., First Floor Lobby, Main College Building

### **Fenway Card**

- Prior to starting classes, all students need to obtain a Fenway Card (Simmons College ID). College Building. In order to obtain a Fenway Card, you will need to show a form of government-issued ID such as a driver's license or passport.
- The Fenway Card Office will be at Orientation Check-In in Alumnae Hall on the Simmons College Residence Campus between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 30, 2009.
- The Fenway Card will be open on Monday, August 31 and Tuesday, September 1, 2009 from 9:00 – 4:00 p.m; they are located in room E-007, which is on the ground floor of the Main College Building

### **Parking and Transportation**

- Parking will be available for incoming students and their families on Sunday, August 30th in the Simmons College Garage on the Academic Campus; access to this garage is off of Avenue Louis Pasteur. Parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Once these parking lots reach capacity, you will be directed to off-campus parking options. More information on these parking options can be found at: <http://my.simmons.edu/services/business/parking/off-campus.shtml>.
- Please note that the only day we will provide parking for Commuter Students for Orientation is on Sunday. For Monday and Tuesday, Commuter Students should plan to commute to campus in the same way that they will commute during the academic year.
- Please be aware that there is a Red Sox Game on Sunday afternoon, which means that you may experience heavy traffic when you depart following the College Picnic. We encourage you to consider this when making your travel plans.

### **Orientation Schedule**

All incoming Dix Scholars are welcome to attend any of the Orientation Events (please see our website (<http://my.simmons.edu/orientation>) for a detailed schedule), but we would like to specifically point out the following events. ALL students are required to attend the following sessions.

Honor Code All students are expected to fully understand the principles of the Honor Code, which has been in practice at Simmons since 1907. This session will outline the Honor Code, and the policies and procedures for both the Honor and Judicial Boards. *This session is mandatory and will be offered at the following times:*

1. Monday, August 31, 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.
2. Monday, August 31, 11:00 am. – 12:00 p.m.
3. Monday, August 31, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
4. Monday, August 31, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
5. Tuesday, September 1, 10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

Simmons 101 During this interactive session you will learn about the Simmons academic requirements, how to make the most of your relationship with your academic adviser, and some of the resources available to support you throughout your time at Simmons. You will also learn about academic deadlines, the add/drop period, the pass/fail grading option, and Credit for Prior Learning. *This session is mandatory and will be offered at the following times:*

1. Monday, August 31, 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.
2. Monday, August 31, 11:00 am. – 12:00 p.m.
3. Monday, August 31, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
4. Tuesday, September 1, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Technology at Simmons: During this session you will learn more about how to keep your computer safe from viruses and worms, how to protect your identity and privacy online, and how to maintain your connection to the Simmons network. You will also learn about the MySimmons Portal, eLearning, email, and the multitude of important technology resources at Simmons. You will also learn more about iComps, the Information Technology Fluency and Information Literacy requirement, and how to prepare for the test that you will take at the end of the Fall Semester. *This session is mandatory and will be offered at the following times:*

1. Monday, August 31, 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.
2. Monday, August 31, 11:00 am. – 12:00 p.m.
3. Monday, August 31, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
4. Tuesday, September 1, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Dix Scholars may be required to complete the Mathematics Competency Exam

Every Simmons graduate must demonstrate competency in basic mathematics and must satisfy the mathematics competency requirement during their first year at Simmons. This skill evaluation has two purposes: to determine if you have fulfilled the math competency requirement and to recommend a math placement that is appropriate to your level of experience in mathematics. Unsure of whether or not you need to take the Mathematics Competency Exam? Contact the Center for Academic Achievement, and they will be able to assist you ([caa@simmons.edu](mailto:caa@simmons.edu) or 617-521-2474).

*The exam will be offered at the following times:*

1. Monday, August 31, 2009, 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.
2. Monday, August 31, 2009, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
3. Tuesday, September 1, 2009, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

**We would like to encourage you to attend the following, should your schedule allow it:**

Opening Address, College Welcome, and Picnic

*Sunday, August 30, 2009, 1:00 p.m.*

The Simmons Community will gather for the official welcome to the 2009-2010 academic year, including introductory remarks from Simmons College officials. New students and families are invited to meet student

leaders, faculty, staff, and other community members at a reception on the Residence Campus Quad immediately following the address.

#### Dix Scholar Gathering

*Sunday, August 30, 2009, 1:45 p.m.*

After you have picked up your picnic lunch, meet new and returning Dix Scholars and their families.

#### Lunch: Dix Scholars

*Monday, August 31, 2009, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.*

*Tuesday, September 1, 2009, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.*

Dix Scholars are invited to bring their lunch or purchase lunch in the “Fens” and join other Dix Scholars for this lunch. There are many issues that affect the daily lives of Dix Scholars that can make attending college a rewarding yet challenging experience. During this presentation, you will hear about services Simmons has to offer which can assist you in the educational process. You will also have the opportunity to hear returning Dix Scholars share their Simmons experiences with you.

#### College Resource Fair

*Tuesday, September 1, 2009, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.*

Simmons Colleges Offices will have departmental displays highlighting the opportunities and resources Simmons has to offer. Departments at the Resource Fair will include the Study Abroad Office, the Center for Academic Achievement, Public Safety, and many more!

#### **Advising Information**

If you do not yet have spoken with an adviser to set up your Fall schedule, you will be assigned an advising time on Monday, August 31, 2009 between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. If you are unable to attend Orientation on Monday afternoon, please email [advising@simmons.edu](mailto:advising@simmons.edu), and we will do our best to connect you with your adviser before classes begin.

In preparation for your conversation with your adviser, we suggest you do the following:

- REVIEW SIMMONS ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS. Learn about the degree requirements at Simmons. You can download a summary of the Academic Requirements at <http://www.simmons.edu/orientation>
- REVIEW SUGGESTED COURSES to explore and embark upon your major. Download an “Introduction to Majors at Simmons” at <http://www.simmons.edu/orientation>
- DOWNLOAD THE UNDERGRADUATE COURSE CATALOG to learn about degree requirements (pages 19-28 in the course catalog) and major requirements (pages 56 - 226). You can download the catalog using the following link:  
<http://www.simmons.edu/academics/catalog/pdf/Undergrad0810/UndergradCatalog2008-10.pdf> ·  
SEARCH AVAILABLE COURSES using AARC (Administrative and Academic Resource Center) (<http://aarc.simmons.edu>). Please try to have several options for courses you would like to take, as some course may be filled.

We look forward to seeing you very soon! In the meantime, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us by e-mailing [orientation@simmons.edu](mailto:orientation@simmons.edu) or by calling 617-521-2429.

Thank you,  
Undergraduate Orientation