

Date: December 2009

To: All New Students Arriving in January 2010

From: Jim McLaughlin  
Director, Campus Center, Student Activities, and New Student Orientation

RE: New Student Orientation

Congratulations on your decision to attend WPI! On behalf of the WPI faculty, staff and administration, it is our pleasure to welcome you to our community.

This mailing is designed to help you begin your career at WPI by providing some additional information which is important and may be helpful to you prior to New Student Orientation. A comprehensive collection of information and resources will be available to you at New Student Orientation (NSO), which begins on Sunday, January 10th. If you are moving into a campus residence hall, please plan to arrive at 11:00 AM on January 10, 2010.

New Student Orientation offers a variety of educational sessions designed to introduce students to WPI's unique academic program, its broad spectrum of social and recreational activities, and its rich history and traditions. The four-day Orientation program, from January 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> will acclimate you to campus, prepare you for university courses, and ease your transition to life at WPI. In addition, special Orientation sessions will be offered for international students and students transferring from other colleges. Classes begin on Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Arriving at WPI**

New students should plan to arrive at 11:00 AM on Sunday, January 10, 2010. Please note that we are unable to accommodate earlier arrivals. If you are arriving in Worcester by plane, train or bus, Arrow Taxi Cab at (508) 756-5184 or Yellow Cab at (508) 754-3211 can bring you to campus. The easiest way to get from Logan Airport/Boston to the WPI campus is by Worcester Airport Limousine Service. The cost is approximately \$46.00 per person one-way for WPI students, \$92.00 round trip; 48 hours notice is preferred. Call (508) 756-4834 or 1-800-660-0992, reserve online with a two-day notice at: [www.wlimo.com](http://www.wlimo.com).

If you have not heard about your housing assignment, please contact the Office of Residential Services at 508-831-5645. Upon arrival, all new students living on or off campus will register for New Student Orientation at East Hall lobby on Boynton Street. Students living on campus will also obtain their residence hall key at East Hall. All students will then get a WPI ID card in Administrative Services located in Founders Hall Basement (next door to East Hall). Students living on campus will then go to their residence hall to move their belongings into their rooms. Workshops related to academic issues and student life on campus will be available for parents throughout the day during New Student Orientation. Parents are encouraged to stay on campus until the conclusion of the Dean's welcome message and dinner. The Campus Center will be open for lunch prior to the afternoon workshops for students and parents. Dinner will be at 5:30 PM on Sunday. The four-day Orientation Schedule is available: [http://users.wpi.edu/~kwykes/Orientation\\_Sched\\_Jan\\_2010.pdf](http://users.wpi.edu/~kwykes/Orientation_Sched_Jan_2010.pdf).

### **Bringing Computers to Campus**

Students are not required to bring a personal computer with them to campus as there are extensive computer lab facilities available for use. However, many students find it convenient to use their own personal computer to complete their coursework. Software is accessible both in the computer labs and over the campus network.

There are many benefits to bringing a computer to campus and attaching it to either our high-speed residential network (ResNet) or our convenient wireless network, but connecting via either method can raise some questions. To make this process easier, the Computing & Communications Center (CCC) has compiled a list of the most frequently asked questions (FAQ). Students planning to bring a computer to campus should check out this useful information by visiting <http://www.wpi.edu/Admin/IT/Help/welcomefaq.html>.

For information about recommended systems, computer labs and computing information, visit the Computing & Communications Center (CCC) web pages at [www.wpi.edu/+CCC](http://www.wpi.edu/+CCC). For answers to specific questions regarding computing at WPI, please contact the CCC Helpdesk by emailing [helpdesk@wpi.edu](mailto:helpdesk@wpi.edu) or calling (508) 831-5888.

### **WPI Campus ID Card**

It is essential that you obtain your WPI ID Card as soon as possible upon arrival for Orientation on Sunday, January 10th. Your WPI ID card is necessary for Residence Hall access, dining, mailroom, and the library. You will be directed to the ID card processing area after you pick up your Orientation information packet in the lobby of East Hall.

### **Health Care and Immunization Information**

You should have received health and immunization forms in a previous mailing. If you have not received these forms, or have questions regarding these forms, please contact the Health Center at (508) 831-5526. Please remember if you are not in compliance with Massachusetts Immunization Laws, you may not be able to register for class. The forms are available on the Web at [www.wpi.edu/Admin/Health](http://www.wpi.edu/Admin/Health).

### **Health Insurance**

Massachusetts requires that all college students have health insurance with a minimum of \$25,000 medical coverage. WPI strongly recommends that you go beyond this minimum, with a medical policy that will cover any major illness and injuries.

### **Academic Information and Resources**

New students will register for their classes on Monday, January 11, 2010 at New Student Orientation during the Academic Advising Sessions.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Incoming students who have a disability and who wish to receive disability related accommodations should contact Rebekah Schulze, Student Disabilities Service Coordinator at (508) 831-5235. For more information, visit [www.wpi.edu/Admin/Disabilities](http://www.wpi.edu/Admin/Disabilities).

### **WPI Mail Services (Located in the Campus Center, Lower Level)**

Mailboxes are assigned to all new WPI students upon registration and are used all four years. New students will need to log onto the Web Information System to get their mailbox numbers and combinations at [registrar.wpi.edu](http://registrar.wpi.edu), click on Web Information System, type in their ID number and their pin number, click on student services and financial aid, and then click campus mailbox information. Mailroom hours are Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

To ease the process of sending and receiving mail once you are here, use the following format as your address (encourage those writing to you to use this same format):

Your Name (*as it appears on your WPI ID*)  
WPI – Box # (*your mailbox number*)  
100 Institute Road Worcester, MA 01609-2280

### **Parking on Campus**

All students with motor vehicles at the University must register with Campus Police and obtain a parking decal. *Parking decals will be available Monday through Friday between 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the WPI Police Department, 26 Boynton Street (Lower Level).*

*Decal costs: All Undergraduate & Graduate Students at WPI only: \$100.00  
Gateway Garage: \$75.00  
East Hall Garage: \$350.00 (no vacancy at this time)*

Freshmen living in residence halls **will not be permitted** to park their vehicle on campus unless extenuating circumstances exist. If so, you should contact Campus Police in writing before arriving on campus (Chief Cheryl Martunas, Campus Police, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2247).

Commuting students living outside a one-mile radius of the University may bring a motor vehicle to college and will be permitted to park on campus upon the completion of the registration process.

*Please note: Registration of a vehicle is not complete until the University parking registration insignia is permanently affixed to the vehicle.*

### **Out-Of-State Vehicles**

Pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L c.90 § 3, as amended by chapter 46 of the acts of 2003. This form must be completed by every nonresident enrolled as a full time student at a school or college in the Commonwealth who operates a motor

vehicle in Massachusetts that is registered in another state or country during any period beginning on September 1<sup>st</sup> of any year, and ending on January 31 of the following year. This applies to students commuting from out-of-state to a school in Massachusetts and students temporarily residing in Massachusetts. The school will issue the required decal, which must be affixed to the uppermost center portion of the windshield. The penalty for a nonresident's failure to comply as required is up to \$200.00.

### **WPI Bookstore**

The WPI Bookstore has everything you will need for your classes. In addition to textbooks you will find study materials, school supplies, residence hall supplies, general reading books, emblematic clothing and gifts, even snacks and drinks! Buy your textbooks early to get as many used books as possible. Buying used books always saves 25% over buying new! Remember, you can sell your books back to us at the end of every term and receive up to 50% in cash! For your convenience, we will be open Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. First year students can purchase their books anytime after they register for classes on January 11, 2010.

### **Selecting a Bank**

WPI has a new TD Bank full service automated teller machine located in the WPI Campus Center. Below is a list of other banks in the area, some within walking distance of WPI. For further information, call the numbers listed below.

TD Bank  
295 Park Ave  
Worcester, MA  
1-800-747-7000

Bank of America  
255 Park Ave  
Worcester, MA  
1-800-841-4000

Sovereign Bank  
51 Gold Star Blvd  
Worcester, MA  
508-754-2271

Commerce Bank  
560 Park Ave  
Worcester, MA  
508-797-6925

Citizens Bank  
940 W. Boylston St  
Worcester, MA  
508-853-3602

Digital Federal Credit Union (DCU)  
131 Gold Star Boulevard  
Worcester, MA  
508-595-1202

### **RSVP**

To help us plan for the family dinner on Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm, please send an E-mail to Kim Wykes ([kwykes@wpi.edu](mailto:kwykes@wpi.edu)) or call 508-831-6806 indicating how many family members (you included) will be attending the dinner.

Thank you,

James McLaughlin  
Director, Campus Center and Student Activities

Enclosure