Welcome!
Division of Student Affairs

Office of the **Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students**

- Residence Life & First Year Experience
- Student Psychological & Counseling Services
- Student Health Center
- Career Development Center
- Student Conduct
- Disability Services
- Peer and Health Education
- Student Engagement
Department of Student Engagement

- Argyros Forum **Student Union**
- Civic Engagement Initiatives
- Cross-Cultural Center
- Doti-Struppa **Rock Wall**
- Greek Life
- Julianne Argryos **Fitness Center**
- **Student Organizations**
First Year FYI...
First Year Feel (Hunter, 2006)

- **Newness:**
  - Norms
  - Academic language
  - Expectations
  - Environment
- “Just being here” will not make students successful

* Mary Hunter 2006 ([www.aacu.org](http://www.aacu.org))
First Year Feedback – National Data (2016)

Contact Remains, But Fluctuates...

• 36% Interacted with parents/guardians daily
• 20% frequently went home for the weekend

* Data from CIRP “Your First College Year” Survey 2016 (www.heri.ucla.edu)
First Year Feedback – National Data (2016)

Adjustment Takes Time…

• 71% felt lonely or homesick
• 47% frequently felt overwhelmed by all they had to do

* Data from CIRP “Your First College Year” Survey 2016 (www.heri.ucla.edu)
First Year Feedback – National Data (2016)

Connections Will Be Made…

- **85%** agreed that at least one staff member **took an interest in their development**
- **72%** found it **easy to develop close friendships** with other students
- **86%** felt that **faculty empowered them** to learn

* Data from CIRP “Your First College Year” Survey 2016 ([www.heri.ucla.edu](http://www.heri.ucla.edu))
Intentionality – What We Seek to Do

- Identify **needs**
- Cultivate sense of **connectivity**
- Provide expansive **opportunities**
- Create engaging **campus environment**
- Assist in finding **academic & career path**
- Provide **support services**
Foundations – Grounding What We Do

• **Integration**—Academic and Social
• Engaging *experiences*
• Affective and cognitive development
• Critical *exploration* and *discourse*
• Educational *campus environment*
• **Support** services
First Year Student Outcomes

• A sense of academic citizenship and membership in the Chapman community of scholars
• Satisfactory progress towards academic performance and career clarity
• Satisfactory academic performance
• Meaningful connection with peers
• Sense of belonging to the University
Chapman Vision

Chapman University will be a student-centered institution, recognized nationally and internationally as a center of academic and personal excellence that prepares our students to contribute to a global society.
First Year Programming
Open Your Window of Opportunity

• Fenestra is Latin for “Window”

• A robust first year experience creating seamless connections between freshmen’s academic program, housing, orientation, and community resources.
Fenestra Overview

• **Fenestra components:**
  • Housed by academic program.
  • Orientation comprising academic program-specific components.
  • Connect students to the great resources of Southern California.

• **Fenestra benefits:**
  • A symbolic message that the *academic experience* is unequivocally at the center of their *Chapman experience*.
  • The pragmatic effect of facilitating *greater peer interaction* among freshmen with similar academic and intellectual interests.
Summer Programs

- Online Engagement
- Summer Blog
- First Year Photo Project

- Pre-Orientation Retreats
- Wilderness Treks
- Emerging Leaders
- First Generation Bridge Program
- International Student Orientation
Fall Orientation

- Opening Convocation
- College/School Welcome Dinner
- Affinity, Regional, Involvement Socials
- Major Meetings
- We Are Chapman
- Weekend Programming
Living Learning Communities

• Fall first-year students

• Placed based on their major and college/school:
  • Schmid College of Science and Technology
  • Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences
  • Dodge College of Film and Media Arts
  • College of Educational Studies
  • Argyros School of Business and Economics
  • College of Performing Arts
  • School of Communication
  • Undeclared/Still Deciding – Atlas Community
Living Learning Communities

- LLCs in four different residence halls: Pralle-Sodaro, Henley, Morlan, and Glass Halls
- Communities led by Resident Advisor from student’s college or school
- Commuter First Year Students are “adopted” by residential communities
- Co-curricular programming specific to communities
Living Learning Communities

Student Engagement = Student Learning

LLCs promote engagement and learning

- Development of supportive peer groups
- Greater student involvement in classroom learning
- Greater student interaction with faculty
- More time studying
- More interaction with diverse peers
- Greater integration of students academic and non-academic lives
- Reduction of high risk behavior
- Greater student involvement in social activities
Beyond the Classroom

• Increase the number of quality interactions (formal or casual) between Chapman faculty and students outside the normal classroom environment

• Sample programs and outings developed with faculty:
  • Mount Wilson Observatory (Angeles National Forest)
  • Distinctive Voices Lecture Series @ UC Irvine Beckman Center (Irvine)
  • Molina Lecture Series - “Science and Policy of Climate Change” (Irvine)
  • Cultural and Religious Centers in the Los Angeles/Orange County Area
    ◦ Chabad and Reform Jewish Temples (Tustin/Santa Ana)
    ◦ Japanese Tea Ceremony (Villa Park)
  • COLCOA French Film Festival 2016 (West Hollywood)
  • Getty Villa (Malibu)
  • Warner Brothers Studio Tour (Burbank)
  • Hamlet @ Irvine Barclay Theater (Irvine)
  • These Paper Bullets @ Geffen Playhouse (Los Angeles)
  • Romeo & Juliet @ A Noise Within (Pasadena)
Campus Opportunities and Experiences
Engagement Matters

• Research demonstrates that connection to the social environment is very important.

• It is crucial that students connect with peers, develop friendships, and find ways to be involved in the community.

• 57% were leader in a student organization

• 40% joined professional / department club

* Data from CIRP “College Senior Survey” 2016 (www.heri.ucla.edu)
Student Union

- Mon-Fri: 7am-12am
  Sat-Sun: 8am-12am
- “UNION FIT” – Group Fitness Sessions
  - 728 participants
  - 46% attendees were FY
- Laptops-to-Go
- Amazon locker
- Print stations

* Data from 2015-2016 Annual Assessment Report
Fitness Center

• Free to students!
• Mon-Fri: 5am-12am
  Sat-Sun: 8am-12am
• 4,658 student users
  • 28% were FY
• Chapman Fitness Challenge
  • 279 participants
  • 27% were FY

* Data from 2015-2016 Annual Assessment Report
Greek Life

- 34% = 2,259 students
- 27% were FY
- 3.36 all-Greek GPA
- **Average Chapter Size:**
  - Fraternity = 70
  - Sorority = 182
- 8 Sororities
- 8 Fraternities
- Deferred recruitment

*Data from 2015-2016 Annual Assessment Report*
Student Organizations

- 62% = 3,981 students
- 27% were FY
- 160+ Organizations
- 7 Categories:
  - Academic
  - Civic Engagement
  - Diversity/Cultural
  - Honor Societies
  - Leisure
  - Recreational
  - Religious/Spiritual

* Data from 2015-2016 Annual Assessment Report
University Program Board

• **3,534 students attended** at least one UPB program
  • **26% were FY**

• 114 programs = **3.67 per week**

• **6 committees:**
  • Awareness
  • Campus Entertainment & Leisure
  • Explore SoCal
  • Marketing
  • Panther Nights
  • Special Events & Traditions

*Data from 2015-2016 Annual Assessment Report*
Student Government Association

- **Purpose:**
  - Advocate for positive change
  - Represent student voice
  - Allocate student activity fee

- **Conference sponsorship funding**
- **Student organization funding**
- **29 Senators:** 18 school senators, 4 class senators, 3 student organization senators, and 4 at-large senators
- **4 Executive officers**
Civic Engagement and Political Activism

- Students’ interest in political and civic engagement reach 50-year highs.

- Incoming students demonstrate stronger inclinations toward activism [and] stronger commitments to engaging with their communities.

* Data from CIRP “The American Freshman: National Norms Fall 2015” (2016; www.heri.ucla.edu)
Civic Engagement

- **Service**
  - Alternative Break Program
  - Cesar Chavez Day of Service
  - Futuros Brillantes Mentoring Program
  - Roots Native Habitat Restoration
  - Watershed Education Ambassador

- **Social Justice**
  - Global Citizens Summit
  - International Day of Peace & Social Justice BBQ
  - Next Step Social Justice Retreat

- **Politics and Current Events**
  - Deliberative Dialogues
  - Global Citizens Wall
  - Voter Engagement
Cross-Cultural Center

- **Mon-Fri:** 7am-12am
  **Sat-Sun:** 8am-12am
- Programs; Cultural graduation celebrations
- **Resource Desk**
- Principles of Identity, Empathy, Community
- **Identity-Themed Rooms:**
  - Asian American
  - LGBTQ
  - Latinx
  - African American
Setting a Foundation
First Year Foundation...

- Connection leads to retention and student engagement
- Engagement leads to maximizing educational experiences

First Year Foundation...

- Experiences build skill sets, leadership development, adaptability, and critical thinking capabilities that employers value

Student Support
Campus Connections for Students

- The Panther Newspaper
- Dean Price’s Weekly Announcements
- One University Blog
- Student Life Weekly Newsletter
Additional Resources to Explore

- Dean of Students Office
- Student Psychological & Counseling Services
- Residence Life & First Year Experience Staff
- Disability Services
- Student Health Center
- Academic Advising
- Career Development Center
- Promising Futures
Tips...
Thoughts for Students

• Try new things
• Be yourself
• Give it time
• Learn from successes and failures
• Be open to differences

• Attendance!
• Preparation for class
• Time management
• Study habits and routines
• Connections with faculty
• Reach out if assistance is needed
Thoughts for Parents/Families

• Encourage them to get involved
• Be patient
• Be encouraging – There will be ups and downs. When the tougher times come, if you don’t panic, your student won’t panic
• Show interest but don’t be intrusive
• Encourage them to try to solve problems themselves – take responsibility for their education
• Let them make mistakes – it’s how we all learn important lessons sometimes
A Look Ahead…
Next Year and Beyond…

• Run for Student Government (Elections in March!)
• Join—or Create—a Student Organization
• Study Abroad and Travel Courses
• Campus Job (Stud. Engage. / Res. Life /Admission Hiring Now!)
• Alternative Break Trip
• Internships
• Research
Questions?
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