

**From:** [Rizza, Salvatore A.](#)  
**To:** [families@lists.southernct.edu](mailto:families@lists.southernct.edu)  
**Subject:** Parent/Family Update: : September 17th  
**Date:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 9:04:19 AM  
**Attachments:** [image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image011.png](#)

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Dear Parents and Families,

Happy Week Three!

This week is the Week of Well-Being where we focus on providing students with information, strategies and resources that support their overall wellness. Students who focus on all aspects of their health and wellness including their physical (fitness, sleep, nutrition), mental, and social and emotional well-being will naturally be more successful. Through our support resources and programming, students have a variety of ways they can address their well-being and thrive!

In this communication you will find information regarding:

1. Resources
2. This Week at Southern- Week of Well-being!
3. A Message from the Dean of Students
4. Campus COVID Update
5. Campus Safety Information from University Police Chief Dooley
6. Remembering 9/11
7. Sexual Misconduct Reporting and Information

Sincerely,

Sal

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#### **Resources**

We would also like to provide a number of links which have really good information that answers many of the questions you may have.

Helpful Links- <https://inside.southernct.edu/parent-family/helpful-links> , these are a number of helpful links that we have gathered specifically for parents/families that will be helpful now and in the future.

Resources- <https://inside.southernct.edu/inside-southern>, these is another general page filled with links that may be helpful!

Fall 2020 Reopening- <https://inside.southernct.edu/reopening>, this provides information on the reopening of campus for the fall semester.

Residence Life- <https://inside.southernct.edu/residence-life>, with so many questions regarding residence life, this may be a great place to find information!

Advising- <https://inside.southernct.edu/advising>, information regarding academic advising.

Sincerely,

Sal Rizza  
Southern Connecticut State University  
Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement  
Phone: (203) 392-5189  
NODA Region IX Regional Coordinator

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***Below are some of the emails students received over the past week:***

*This Week at Southern Connecticut State University*



This week is the Week of Well-Being!

Learn how to live a healthy lifestyle through a variety of programs and activities held all throughout the week.

### Monday, September 14th

1:00pm-2:00pm

#### **Taste of the High Holidays: Apples & Honey**

On-Ground Event

Academic Quad

Stop by our table in the Academic Quad for a taste of the High Holidays. We will be giving out prepackaged apples and honey packets to celebrate Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. Also, sign a Rosh Hashanah card for Jewish residents in area nursing homes and wish them a sweet New Year!

1:00pm-2:00pm

#### **Ask Me Anything (Week of Well-Being Event)**

Social Media Event

Instagram: @scsu\_counseling\_services

Every Monday, Chrissy and Kiana from Counseling Services will be hosting Ask Me Anything on IG Live @scsu\_counseling\_services\_. They will be posting a topic every week and all you have to do is DM them the question you have on that topic. They will then go on live every Monday and answer all questions.

8:00pm-9:30pm

#### **We Love ASA (Alpha Sigma Alpha Recruitment Event)**

On-Ground Event

Academic Quad

Join the sisters of Alpha Sigma Alpha for a night of fun!

### Tuesday, September 15th

10:00am-11:30pm

#### **Commuter Coffee & Chat**

Virtual Event

Access Event [HERE](#)

Grab a cup of coffee and join us for our virtual Coffee and Chat. You can learn about the different offices and resources offered to students at Southern. You will also learn about new ways to get involved on campus.

11:00am-12:00pm

#### **One Love SCSU! (Week of Well-Being Event)**

Social Media Event

Instagram: @SouthernSCSU

Join the staff members from the Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy and Support (VPAS) Center for a conversation about healthy relationships! Follow @SouthernSCSU on Instagram to join the livestream conversation!

2:00pm-4:00pm

#### **Hispanic Heritage Month Kick Off**

On-Ground Event

Dunkin Donuts Patio

Join OLAS at our kick-off for the start of Hispanic Heritage Month! There will be music and tabling. We will be outside, but please be sure to wear your mask and maintain social distancing. Stay safe!

5:00pm-6:00pm

#### **Free Fitness Class: Body Weight Bootcamp**

On-Ground Event

Academic Quad

FREE on ground fitness class for current students, faculty and staff. Space is limited so make sure you reserve your spot on the Athleto app ([iOS](#), [Android](#)) today! Reserve your spot on the Athleto app for FREE! This class is a high energy workout circuit using your bodyweight and both basic and explosive movements. No experience necessary! Bring your own mat or towel and a bottle of water. Masks are required to arrive and leave, but masks are optional during the exercise portion.

6:00pm-7:00pm

#### **The Star You Are (Delta Phi Epsilon Recruitment Event)**

On-Ground Event

Buley Patio

Let the sisters get to know about you.

8:00pm-9:00pm

#### **Trivia Night**

Virtual Event

Access Event [HERE](#)

Join us virtually for a night of trivia! Top 3 Winners will receive prizes!

8:00pm-10:15pm

#### **Meet The Brothers of Beta Virtually**

Virtual Event

Access Event [HERE](#)

The brothers of Beta Mu Sigma are holding their annual first rush event with meet the bro's. This year it will look a little different of course due to Covid, but we are just as exciting to introduce ourselves to potential new members looking to rush. This is a very relaxed event where we are just looking to talk and get to know you. Feel free to drop by for as long as you want and learn about the Brotherhood and the members in it. This is also a great event to hear about our other events coming up as well.

### Wednesday, September 16th

8:30am-12:00pm

#### **Good Morning, Commuters!**

On-Ground Event

ASC 217 - Resource Room

Good Morning, Commuters! Stop by ASC 217 for a free hot breakfast before you take on your day! Mingle with other commuter students and learn about different departments on campus.

1:00pm-2:00pm

#### **Honoring Race in Your Job Search**

On-Ground Event

ASC Room 308

In the midst of a Black Lives Matter Movement, it's crucial to discuss how race plays a role in your job search. Log into your JOBSs account to RSVP if you want to attend in-person.

1:00pm-1:30pm

#### **Wellness Wednesday: COVID vs. Flu (Week of Well-Being Event)**

Social Media Event

Instagram: @SCSUWellness

Join us twice a month for Wellness Wednesday on Instagram Live: @SCSUwellness

A new week means a new topic! We'll provide fun facts, tips and tricks, guest speakers, and resources. You don't want to miss out!

1:00pm-2:00pm

#### **Starting A New Club Workshop**

Virtual Event

Access Event [HERE](#)

Join the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership Development to go over the process of starting a new club. This is a mandatory step one for starting a club.

1:00pm-2:00pm

#### **ASL BINGO**

Virtual Event

Access Event [HERE](#)

Welcome everyone to the ASL Club! To kick off our semester we will be playing ASL Bingo! Don't worry if you are new to sign language. ALL students are welcome to join!

3:00pm-4:00pm

#### **Ask Daphney and Char**

Virtual Event

Access Event [HERE](#)

This is an opportunity for student organization leaders to join Daphney Alston and Charlene Cammarasana to have their questions answered related to managing clubs.

6:20pm-7:20pm

#### **It Gets Better**

On-Ground Event

ASC Room 308

Come learn and discuss the topic of mental health and suicide prevention with the ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

7:00pm-8:00pm

#### **FUN Fortune Teller**

Virtual Event

Contact @scsu\_osi for link

Want to know the future? Join the Office of Student Involvement in a night of fortune telling!

8:00pm-10:00pm

#### **AniWednesday: New Season, New Anime**

Virtual Event

Access Event [HERE](#)

Jump into the latest season of anime and see what's new! Whether you're an avid anime watcher, or just looking for something to watch, come check it out!

### Thursday, September 17th

U.S. Constitution and Citizenship Day

11:00am-1:00pm

#### **Constitution Day**

On-Ground Event

Academic Quad

Student Conduct & Civic Responsibility and SAGE Center will co-host a Constitution Day tabling event where students can grab free pocket Constitutions, register to vote, and partake in an educational activity about Constitutional rights for the chance to win a gift card.

12:00pm-1:00pm

**PB&J Thursday**

On-Ground Event

Academic Quad (Rain Location: Engleman Rotunda)

Stop by for a to-go sandwich, some snacks and drinks on your way to class and get to know ProCon!

12:00pm-2:00pm

**Coming into the Light, Breaking the Stigma of Substance Abuse and Trauma with Sarah Kaiser, AOD Coordinator**

Virtual event. To register, [click here](#).

Stigma is a major barrier preventing millions of people who are struggling with substance use from entering treatment today. This training will also discuss the difference in gender responsiveness and presentation for trauma.

1:00pm-2:00pm

**From Talk To Activism: Racial Justice and Structural Change (Week of Well-Being Event)**

Virtual Event

Access Event [HERE](#)

Students and alumni across the United States are using their platform to speak out in support of Black Lives Matter and racial justice. Join us for this virtual forum and hear how Southern students and alumni are leading racial justice efforts and drawing attention to the need for structural changes to systems that perpetuate racism at Southern and beyond. How can we amplify student, faculty, staff, and alumni voices to move us to a sense of hopefulness for all? [Submit your questions for the panelists](#) by 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 14.

1:00pm-3:00pm

**Navigating Your Way to Healthy Relationships and Campus! (Week of Well-Being Event)**

On-Ground Event

Residence Life Quad

Join the Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy and Support (VPAS) Center in an interactive activity about the signs of a healthy relationship, resources, how to be a member of a healthy and safe community and have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the campus community. Free snacks and giveaways!

2:00pm-3:00pm

**Joining Our Voices for Racial Justice Banner Signing (Week of Well-Being Event)**

On-Ground Event

Academic Quad

Immediately following the virtual forum "From Talk to Activism," Southern students, faculty, and staff are invited to the Academic Quad to contribute their commitments and sense of hope to a banner honoring the important cause of racial justice at Southern and beyond. We will have a canopy, tables, and physical distancing floor dots set up to help everyone maintain social distancing. Please wear a face covering.

3:00pm-4:00pm

**THUR YAY : A Conversation with Diane Ariza**

Virtual Event

Access Event [HERE](#)

Join us for a conversation with the Inaugural Vice President of Diversity Equality & Inclusion, Ms. Diane Ariza.

**Friday, September 18th**

**All Day**

**Social Media Event**

Instagram [@scsu\\_recfit](#) and [@thrivescsu](#)

Meet Sodexo for Healthy Eating on Campus with Eve and Carson.

10:00pm-3:00pm

**Flu Shot Clinic (Week of Well-Being Event)**

On-Ground Event

Outside Jennings

Get vaccinated for the flu and take care of **YOU!** Bring your insurance card, prescription card, and don't forget your mask!

2:00pm

**Loving Every-Body with Eve and Kiana (Week of Well-Being Event)**

Social Media Event

Instagram Live, [@southernscsu](#) and [@thrivescsu](#)

Every body deserves love and respect. Learn why this is so important during this Instagram Live.

7:00pm-8:00pm

**Hybrid Shabbat**

Hybrid Event

On-Ground: Reflection Garden

Access Event [HERE](#)

Join Rabbi Barbara and the Hillel E-Board for weekly Shabbat! We'll have an in-person and online option: join us in person at the Remembrance Garden behind Engleman (weather permitting) or on Microsoft Teams. Both are welcome! We'll have a computer set up at the garden for members to call in. Learn some prayers, talk about Torah, and make some friends!

8:00pm-10:30pm

**Movie Night in the Quad**

On-Ground Event

Residence Life Quad

Come and watch a good movie with ProCon out in the Residence Quad! Snacks and candy will be prepackaged!

**Saturday, September 19th**

9:00am-12:00pm

**Clean UP East Haven Beach Cleanup**

On-Ground Event

East Haven Town Beach

**PLEASE RSVP TO THIS EVENT BY 9/17 IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND!**

Join GEMS, Clean UP East Haven and Save the Sound for a beach clean-up at East Haven Beach! This is a fantastic way to meet up with fellow GEMS and do something great for your community. GEMS will provide its members with trash bags and gloves. Parking: PERSONAL VEHICLES ONLY, no carpool available. Park in one of the large parking lots across from the beach. COVID: Bring your masks and stay distanced! GEMS will provide hand sanitizer for everyone's use.

2:00pm

**Magician with RHA**

Virtual Event

TBA

Students can log into the magic show virtually. There will also be a few students lucky enough to participate in the show!

4:30pm-6:30pm

**Trivia Night**

Virtual Event

Access Event [HERE](#)

Students will connect via WebEx and compete in a trivia contest. Students will compete in teams and the top 3 winning groups will win gift cards!

*Campus COVID Update*



**COVID-19 DASHBOARD**

The University's [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) is updated each Monday and provides cumulative and weekly data related to the prevalence of COVID-19 within our campus community.

For questions about reporting, please email the [SCSU COVID-19 Coordinator](#).



**ASSISTING STUDENTS IN DISTRESS**

Recognizing that it is natural for all of us, especially our students, to experience a certain degree of stress and anxiety during this unprecedented time, everyone is encouraged to reach out and respond to our community members who may be in distress.

Have you noticed a sudden reduction in quality of work or grades?

Is a student emailing you for more personal support than academic support?

Is someone disclosing personal information regarding stress with family, finances, depression, and more?

It is the responsibility of all of us to recognize students in distress, respond to them and refer them when appropriate. Please see [additional resources](#) for you in doing this very important work.

More information about the campus Student Support Team, emergency funding and additional support is available [here](#).



### **SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS (SOS) FUND**

The Support Our Students (SOS) Fund provides quick-response emergency grants to currently enrolled students who are facing difficulty covering the cost of basic needs such as:

- Emergency medical expenses
- Food or transportation
- Homelessness or sudden loss of housing
- Safety issues, including the needs of victims of domestic violence

Since May 2020, over \$70,000 from the SOS Fund has been given to Southern students in need. Please continue to remind your students that if they require additional financial assistance to contact the Dean of Students Office at [deanofstudents@SouthernCT.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@SouthernCT.edu).

### **Help Our Owls Thrive**

Southern's faculty and staff can make a biweekly donation to the fund of their choice through [payroll deduction](#).

Or, you can make a [one-time donation](#) to support Southern and its students. Contact Kaitlin Ingerick, director of Annual Giving at [IngerickK1@SouthernCT.edu](mailto:IngerickK1@SouthernCT.edu) for questions.





## FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions about any of these items, or other aspects of the University's reopening plans, you may submit them here or visit Southern's [Reopening 2020](#) website.

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*A message from the Dean of Students*

Dear Students,

Greetings from the Dean of Students Office and welcome to the fall semester!

We recognize that this semester is different - you may have on-ground classes, hybrid classes or be taking a full course load online. As we begin the semester, please know that we are here to support you and help you to succeed, both on the ground and virtually. Whether you need help accessing or navigating technology, an emergency grant to meet your basic needs, access to well-being supports including counseling and health services, or assistance connecting with others, we are here to support you, connect you to resources, and help you throughout this experience. Please contact the Dean of Students Office for help (see below)!

As we move through the fall semester, I hope you remain safe and well. Take a moment to look through your syllabi, add due dates to your phone/email calendars, and make time for yourself! We stand ready to support you.

### Contacting the Dean of Students Office

Email – [deanofstudents@southernct.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@southernct.edu)

Phone – 203-392-5556

Online Scheduling – Login to Navigate and Make an Appointment (navigate is accessible through the apps on MySCSU). Virtual and in-person appointments available.

LIVE CHAT – Visit the Dean of Students website and click on Live Chat for quick access

Be Well!

Jules

*Jules Tetreault, Ed.D.*

**Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and  
Dean of Students**

Southern Connecticut State University  
501 Crescent Street  
New Haven, CT 06515  
203-392-5556

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*A message regarding campus safety from Chief Dooley, University Police Chief*

Welcome back to the Southern Community. The last few months have certainly been challenging but I hope everyone is settling into the new semester. We recently experienced a brief Tornado in this area and I want to remind the community that during September it is important to be mindful and prepare for potential Hurricanes and safety and shelter locations on campus or at home. In addition to severe weather guidance, I would like to share some very important information regarding safety and emergency management. In this e-mail, I have included links that provide information on responses to a variety of emergency situations. A separate e-mail will be send out notifying everyone of a date and time for testing of our emergency notifications systems to include the Southern Alert and Siren/Public Address systems.

I also want to call attention to and continue to promote the **Southern LiveSafe Safety app**. The LiveSafe app provides students, faculty and staff a direct connection to the Southern Police Department, campus resource information and a safe walk option to name a few features. If you haven't downloaded the app already, please take a moment to do so.

A link to a video "Active Aggressor/Hostile Intruder," which explains the RUN, HIDE, FIGHT protocol is also included in this e-mail. It is very important to take a few minutes to watch this new video and review the one-page RUN, HIDE, FIGHT information sheet.

- RUN, HIDE, FIGHT Video and Information Sheet :<https://inside.southernct.edu/emergency-preparedness/weapons-on-campus-hostile-threats>

- For more information on Southern LiveSafe and to download the mobile app for free, visit: <http://www.southernct.edu/student-life/safety/livesafe.html>
- Please ensure that your Southern Alert profile is updated as we will be testing this mass notification system and the Siren/ Public Address system in the coming week. <https://inside.southernct.edu/southernalert>
- Please note that only [University Police](#) Officers and other Authorized Law Enforcement have the authority to possess guns or other weapons on campus. As noted in the Faculty/Staff and Student Handbooks, University policy prohibits employees and students or their guests from possessing or storing a firearm on campus. Please see the [University's Firearms Policy](#).
- In addition, under Connecticut General Statutes, firearms, explosives, flammable substances and other weapons of any kind are not allowed on University property. This includes, but is not limited to rifles, shotguns, pistols, BB guns, pellet guns, paint ball guns, bows and arrows, stun guns, knives, and martial arts weapons

Safety on the Southern campus is of paramount importance and each member of the community should do their part to assist in keeping Southern a safe environment. The Southern Police are always available to assist any member and we look forward to another fall semester. Please do not hesitate to contact a member of the department if you have any questions or concerns.

Chief Joseph M. Dooley  
 Southern Connecticut State University Police  
 501 Crescent St.  
 New Haven, Ct. 06515  
 203-392-5375  
 FBINA 148<sup>th</sup>




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*A message regarding Sexual Misconduct Reporting*

**Dear Southern Student,**

At Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU), we are committed to creating a community where individuals are treated with dignity, respect, civility, kindness, and compassion. Your health and safety are a top priority! In line with this mission, we comply with Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972 which prohibits sex discrimination including acts of sexual harassment/misconduct at educational institutions. Acts of sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, sexual exploitation, and stalking) are a violation of Southern Connecticut State University policies, as well as state and federal law. We encourage you to report any incidents of sexual misconduct and/or utilize the support and advocacy services available to you. (click links below to access respective policies)

<https://www.ct.edu/files/policies/5.2%20SexualMisconductReportingSuppMeasuresProcesses.pdf>

<https://www.ct.edu/files/policies/4.11%20-%20Statement%20of%20Title%20IX%20Policy.pdf>

<https://www.ct.edu/files/policies/2.1%20StudentCodeofConduct.pdf>

**RESPONSIBLE EMPLOYEES**

All employees, including faculty, staff and administrators, are responsible employees and are required to report disclosures or reports of sexual misconduct except for those University employees in our Health Center and Counseling Center. This means that when you report or disclose information regarding sexual misconduct to a responsible employee they will need to report this to the University's Title IX Coordinator. The University Advocate will then be contacted and provide you with information including supportive services, reporting options, and your Title IX rights.

Please note that if you are under the age of eighteen (18) the Title IX Coordinator must contact the Connecticut Department of Children and Families to inform them of the alleged situation involving sexual misconduct.

**FORMAL REPORTING OPTIONS**

University Police @ 203.392.5375 (If you wish to press criminal charges.)

Ms. Paula Rice, Title IX Coordinator @203.392.5568 [ricep1@southernct.edu](mailto:ricep1@southernct.edu) (If you wish to file a complaint with the university.)

Anonymous Reports, please click here <http://www.southernct.edu/university-police/silent-witness.html>

**ADVOCACY & SUPPORT SERVICES**

Catherine Christy, Director of VPAS, SART Coordinator, University Victim Advocate @ (203) 392-6946 (o) (203) 687-1252 (c)

Melissa Kissi, Sexual Assault and Violence Prevention Specialist, University Victim Advocate @ (203) 392-6946 (o) (203) 507-3751 (c)

**Confidential Support Services**

SCSU Counseling Center @ (203)392-5475



SCSU Health Center @ (203)392-6300

Women & Families Center@1-888-999-5545, 24/7

The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services @ (203)789-8104, 24/7

To learn more about reporting options and advocacy, support services, students' rights (including rights of pregnant/parenting students) please click here <https://inside.southernct.edu/sexual-misconduct>

### ***Support and Resource Team***

Southern Connecticut State University's Support and Resource Team (SART) is designed to provide a collaborative victim-centered team response to survivors of sexual misconduct. The SART members can connect a survivor to many supportive options including counseling, medical attention, judicial services, advocacy, law enforcement, referrals, and general information regarding sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence. A complete list of SCSU Support and Resource team (SART) members is available at <https://www.southernct.edu/vpas/sart.html>.

### ***Prevention Education and Awareness Programs***

The University understands the importance of prevention education and is committed to providing you with ongoing education through its prevention programming and awareness campaigns. It is with this purpose we offer numerous educational opportunities for you including a required online course, *Not Anymore*. At the beginning of the fall semester all students are informed of the requirements to complete an initial or refresher module of the *Not Anymore* course. Individual emails will be sent to all students with instructions on how to access the training.

Educational information and programming that are related to prevention, bystander intervention, rape culture, and more are also provided throughout the academic year. Please visit the Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy and Support Center (VPAS) events page <https://www.southernct.edu/vpas/events.html> for a complete list of programs.

### ***Be Informed: Know Your Campus Crime Report***

We want you to be informed of the number of incidences of sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence reported to the University. Click here to view the entire Uniform Campus Crime and Safety Report <http://www2.southernct.edu/university-police/clery-report.html>

Paula Rice  
Director/Title IX Coordinator  
Office of Diversity & Equity Programs  
Buley Library Room 240, (203) 392-5568 office (203) 392-5489 fax  
[ricep1@southernct.edu](mailto:ricep1@southernct.edu)



*Remembering 9/11: A message from University President Joe Bertolino*

Dear Southern community,

Today marks the 19th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C., that left an indelible scar on our nation.

Two Southern alums – Angel Pena, '79, and Seth Morris, '89 -- were among those who lost their lives in the collapse of the World Trade Center Twin Towers. Both were successful businessmen and loving fathers. Both met their future spouses while they were all students here at Southern.

They will always remain a part of the fabric of our community.

To honor them, and all the victims of the 9/11 attacks, I encourage you to continue our tradition of observing a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m., in memory of the victims and in solidarity with their families and friends.

These are difficult times in our country. Many of us are grappling with immense loss, pain, and uncertainty. So I also encourage you to use this anniversary as motivation to speak out against hateful words and actions, and to continue to educate our students and others about the values of tolerance, diversity and inclusiveness.

Our community is committed to social justice, not just in word, but in action and in deed. And in this spirit, I also ask that together we make every effort to treat each other with dignity, respect, kindness, compassion, and civility.

In such ways, we can make our own contribution to creating a future built on peace and understanding for all.

Sincerely,

Joe Bertolino  
President

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