

Rizza, Salvatore A.

From: Rizza, Salvatore A.
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 3:12 PM
To: families@lists.southernct.edu
Subject: Parent/Family Update: June 2021

Dear Parents and Families,

Happy Summer!

First, to those who are receiving their first email from Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement we want to welcome you to the Owl Family!

The first day of fall 2021 classes is just over two months away (August 26th) and we are rapidly preparing to begin a new semester. We are most excited about students returning to campus as most classes will be in-person! Over the past two weeks we've seen some incredible enthusiasm as new first-year students (freshmen) have been attending their orientation sessions. **If your new first-year student has yet to register for an orientation session, please encourage them to do so as soon as possible.** For more information, visit <https://www.southernct.edu/orientation/first-year-student>.

Below, you will see the schedule for our Parent and Family Virtual Orientation Series (<https://www.southernct.edu/orientation/parent-family-orientation>). While these programs are specifically designed for families of new first-year and transfer students, all families are invited to attend. The majority of these sessions will be broadcasted live via the Parent/Family Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/> and some are will be discussion based sessions via Zoom (see links below).

Here are a few important things to keep in mind at this point in the summer:

- Over the course of the spring semester, we strongly encouraged students to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine and once again, we are encouraging students to pursue this measure so that we can create a safe in-learning environment for our campus and community.
- Fall 2021 bills are due July 15th. <https://inside.southernct.edu/onestop/bill-payment/bill-pay>
- Please encourage your students to check their emails frequently as they will be receiving important information throughout the summer. VERY IMPORTANT!!!
- The first day of classes is August 26th.
- Move-In Dates (<https://inside.southernct.edu/residence-life/moving-in>)
 - August 23rd, New Student Move-In (first-year and new transfer)
 - August 24th, Sophomore Move-In
 - August 25th, Upper Division (junior and seniors) Move-In
- New Owl Welcome (<https://www.southernct.edu/orientation/new-owl-welcome>) - ALL First-Year Students are required to participate in New Owl Welcome Days on August 24th and 25th. Times are still being finalized but will be between the hours of 9am and 5pm.
- **Sophomore** Welcome Day, August 25th- we will be inviting all returning sophomores to campus for a fun-filled and informative day just for them! Recognizing that they had a unique experience last year, we are planning a day that will be designed for them to learn about resources, meet other sophomores and get them off to a great start for their 2nd year!

As the summer continues, please know that our office is here to help!

Sincerely,

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

Parent and Family Summer Virtual Programming Series

ORIENTATION TRANSITION & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

PRESENTS 2021 PARENT & FAMILY

Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement at Southern invites parents and families to join in this summer's Virtual Programming Series. While all programs are open to all parents and families, they primarily serve families of our new first-year and transfer students as we will not be holding in-person orientation this summer. The Facebook Live sessions are designed for different offices and resources to provide information and updates while the Zoom sessions will be roundtable conversations hosted by different areas. All Facebook Live sessions will be streamed via the Parent/Family Facebook Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>) and will be available to view at anytime following the program for those that are not able to attend the live stream. Zoom sessions will not be recorded. Registration is not required!

June Sessions

Monday, June 28th

5:30pm- 6:00pm, Parent and Family Summer Update

With the summer in full swing, Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement will provide an update on what to students should expect for the rest of the summer, discuss orientation, and the beginning of the fall semester. *While this information will be most helpful for parents and families of new students, all participants are welcome.*

Presented via Facebook Live- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>.

6:00pm- 6:30pm, First-Year Parent & Family Roundtable

This roundtable conversation facilitated by Sal Rizza, Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement is designed for first-year parents to meet one another and discuss their thoughts as well ask general questions regarding the college experience.

Presented via Zoom- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2033925168>

July Sessions

Wednesday, July 14th

5:10p- 5:50pm

How to be a College Parent

The Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Jules Tetrault will be joined by other college parents to discuss some of the keys to supporting students in their first semester and beyond.

Presented via Facebook Live- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>.

6:00pm- 6:45pm

First-Year Experience: Committed to Success

Learn how your students first-year experience! From, their first-year seminar course (INQ 101) learning communities and the services FYE provides, Southern is committed to helping first-year students find success in their first semester and beyond. You will meet Nicole Henderson, the director of FYE and Dyan Robinson, Assistant Director who are fantastic professionals and deeply committed to the success of first-year students! This program is specifically designed for the parents and families of new first-year students (freshmen).

Presented via Facebook Live- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>.

Thursday, July 22nd

6:00pm to 6:30 and 6:30 to 7:00pm

First-Year Parent & Family Roundtables

Parents and family members of new students are invited to attend as many of the following roundtable conversations as they would like! These experiences are designed so that parents and families with different interests can interact with their peers. For those that would like to attend multiple sessions, they can join at the 6pm and 6:30pm start times.

Presented via Zoom- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2033925168>

- **Spanish Speaking-** Nos complace ofrecer una conversación de mesa redonda de orientación específicamente para padres, familias y seres queridos de habla hispana. Reconocemos que la familia es un pilar en la comunidad Latinx y la transición a la universidad es un gran paso para el estudiante y sus seres queridos. En esta sesión, proporcionaremos información importante y responderemos preguntas; todo será en español para que la información sea lo más accesible posible.
- **Sankofa-** "Sankofa is the first-generation family engagement initiative that provides information about Southern and college, in general, to families through a student lens who may or may not have gone to college themselves.."
- **Commuter Connection-** Families of commuter students are invited to learn more the ways in which commuters can find success.
- **Residence Life** – Join the Department of Residence Life in a conversation regarding on-campus living.
- **NCAA Athletes** – The life of a student athlete can be demanding. Learn more about the ways to support your students.

Wednesday, July 28th

Time 5:10pm- 5:50pm

Southern Success: How You Can Help Your Students Achieve Their Goals.

Join the offices of the Southern Success Center who will discuss how to supports successfully transition to their first semester, succeed academically, think about their majors/advising, and begin to plan for a career. Featuring the Academic Success Center, Career and Professional Development, Academic Advising, and Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement.

Presented via Facebook Live- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>.

6:00pm- 6:40pm

Getting Connected: How Students Find Their Place

About: Learn how your students can find their connection! Join us in hearing from several offices on campus as a part of our first small panel discussion which will include information about athletics, clubs, organizations, club sports, intramurals, the Multicultural Center and the Sexuality and Gender Equality center.
Presented via Facebook Live- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>.

August Sessions

Tuesday, August 10th,

5:10pm- 5:50pm

Being Well at Southern: A Holistic Approach to Thrive

About: Join us in hearing from the Counseling Center and Health Services to learn how to support your students find their wellbeing at Southern.

Presented via Facebook Live- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>.

Thursday, August 12th, 5:15pm- 6:00pm

Living on Campus: Part 2

The Office of Residence Life will discuss the fall 2021 on-campus experience and will be available to answer questions regarding move-in, safety, community and programs.

Presented via Facebook Live- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>.

6:00pm- 6:40pm

Community and Safety: Creating a Safe and Welcoming Community

The University Police Department and Office of Student Conduct and Civic Responsibility will share the ways we work to create a safe and welcoming campus for all community members.

Presented via Facebook Live- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>.

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!

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.

