

Rizza, Salvatore A.

From: Rizza, Salvatore A.
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 12:37 PM
To: families@lists.southernct.edu
Subject: Parent/Family Update: September 14th, 2021

Dear Parents and Families,

As the semester continues to pick up momentum, students are presented with countless opportunities for involvement, connections and support. Please see below the information that was shared with them via various platforms.

This email includes:

1. Message from the Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement – Parent and Family Day Update!
2. SANKOFA Owl Chat- This Thursday! FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES!

Email students received recently:

3. Constitution Day
4. COVID Update
5. Success Week
6. This Week at Southern

Message from the Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement

Dear Parents and Families!

This week is Success Week! As students delve deeper into their studies they'll begin to be challenged in ways they may not always expect. It is incredibly important to note that we have a deep array of resources and services available to students at NO COST! One of the resources highlighted this week is the Center of Academic Success and Accessibility Services (<https://inside.southernct.edu/casas>). With hundreds of academic specialists, coaches, tutors and mentors students are strongly encouraged to seek guidance and support throughout their collegiate careers. Often students see these resources as places to go when they are struggling as opposed to an opportunity to improve even when they are doing well. Meeting with a writing specialist to fine tune a paper, processing complicated concepts with a tutor, or engaging with an Academic Coach to continue to develop key academic skills are just some of the ways that students can drastically improve their academic performance and further the educational pursuits.

SANKOFA Owl Chat- This week is the 2nd SANKOFA Owl Chat specifically designed for parents/families of first-generation students who are students that are the first in their family to attend college. See the information below for more information.

Parent and Family Day- This year's Parent and Family Day will be Saturday ,October 16th. The schedule is still in development but we anticipate that the day will begin around 8am and conclude by 6pm. In addition to Parent and Family Day, we will be celebrating our traditional Homecoming as parents, families and alumni will attend many of the festivities together. Traditionally, the day has included a Parent/Family Brunch, family friendly activities, football tailgate party, student organization "parade" and performances, football game and more. We are working to plan a COVID safe and fun program and need a bit more time to announce a schedule. Please also note that in past year's Parent and Family Day did require a registration fee which ranged from \$10 to \$20. We hope to announce details and open registration no later than October 1st.

Have a great week and please let us know if we can be of any support to you!

Sincerely,

Sal Rizza

Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement

Hello Families!

The week the office of University Access Programs is holding another Sankofa OwlChat about parents' and families' relationships evolve with their student. They will be partner with Stephanie Perez from Counseling Services! For more information or to register, please visit <https://inside.southernct.edu/sankofa> or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/882856205995388/>.

How Can You Develop With Your Student?

Thursday, September 16, 2021

How Gen Z Students Develop in
College: Can you see me?

This workshop will
discuss major
priorities for college
students including
diversity, equity,
inclusion, and mental
health services.



**SANKOFA
FIRST-GENERATION FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Camryn E. Arpino-Brown

Personal Gender Pronouns: She, Her, Hers ([What is this?](#))

AmeriCorps VISTA for University Access Programs | EN B018

Phone: (203) 392-5362 | Email: arpinobrowc1@southernct.edu

Southern Connecticut State University

Students Received the Following Emails Recently

Constitution Day 2021

Sept. 17, 2021

Hello Owls!

On Friday we honor U.S. Constitution and Citizenship Day. This day is a national observance recognizing our country's citizens, as well as the day that the delegates of the Constitutional Convention signed the Constitution in 1787. This day also honors the rights and liberties granted and protected by the Constitution.

Stop by the Engleman Rotunda to **celebrate Constitution Day** with the Office of Student Conduct and Civic Responsibility! Learn more about your rights, sign the constitution, play a game, and complete the constitution day word search from **11:00 AM – 1:00 PM on Friday September 17th**.

History of Constitution and Citizenship Day:

The commemoration of this day began in 1940 when Congress passed a joint resolution requesting the President annually recognize all those who had attained American citizenship status. This was originally known as "I Am an American Day."

In 1952, Congress repealed that joint resolution and passed a new law that established Sept. 17 as a day to recognize the importance of the Constitution and to celebrate American citizenship. The law urged civil and educational authorities to make plans to properly observe this day, then called "Citizenship Day."

Finally, in 2004, Congress again changed the name of this observance to "Constitution Day and Citizenship Day," and added two requirements regarding its commemoration. The first such requirement is that every federal agency provides Constitution Day training and educational materials to employees. The second is that every educational institution that offers federal financial aid must provide educational programming to its students on the history of the American Constitution.

History of the Constitution:

In Philadelphia during the summer of 1787, delegates convened to create "a more perfect union," and at such time constructed the Constitution. Their goal was to create a framework that would provide human rights, social balance and freedom. The Constitution was signed by those delegates on Sept. 17, 1787.

We in the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships hope you all have a very happy Constitution and Citizenship Day!

Campus Compact Constitution Day Events

Here are some websites to check out in honor of this day:

Play a civics game:

<https://www.icivics.org/games/branches-power>

<https://www.icivics.org/games/executive-command>

Check out this informative site:

<https://constitutionday.com/index.html>

Test your civics skills here:

<https://my.uscis.gov/prep/test/civics>

Schoolhouse Rock! The Preamble to the Constitution:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=38&v=0EfnNUt_nwY&feature=emb_logo

A transcript of the Constitution:

<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript>

P.S. If you made it this far and are still wondering why the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships is sending you this email, it's because of federal financial aid laws. We are required to observe this holiday and ensure that all students know about its meaning every year. But we are not the experts on this subject. If you have any questions regarding Constitution and Citizenship Day, we encourage you to speak with your history and political science professors, or other experts on the subject matter.



CAMPUS COVID-19 DASHBOARD

The University's COVID-19 Dashboard will be updated regularly throughout the fall semester, providing cumulative and current data related to the prevalence of COVID-19 within our campus community. You can see the latest figures at: <https://inside.southernct.edu/reopening/covid19-dashboard>

Anyone who receives an exception to the vaccine mandate (medical or non-medical) for students, faculty and staff must participate in Southern's weekly testing protocols throughout the semester.

Please use the [Self-Report Form](#) to notify the COVID Coordinator if you are COVID positive or have been exposed to someone who has COVID. For any other questions about reporting, please email the [SCSU COVID-19 Coordinator](#).



CONTACT TRACING

The University will continue to contact trace members of our campus community who test positive for COVID-19. A member of Southern's Contact Tracing Team will interview the confirmed case to gather detailed information about all of their activities and interactions with others, starting two days prior to the onset of symptoms, or two days prior to a positive test. This process is designed to limit the spread of the virus.

The SCSU contact tracer then notifies all Southern community members who are considered to be at risk for exposure, otherwise known as close contacts.

A close contact is considered anyone who **has been within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15 minutes over a 24-hour period**. Close contacts who have not been vaccinated must quarantine.

Per CDC guidance, close contacts that have been vaccinated do not have to quarantine. They are advised to monitor for symptoms and to get tested 3-5 days after exposure, even if they don't have symptoms. They should also wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until receiving a negative test result.

Any identified close contacts who are not SCSU-affiliated will be entered into the state contract tracing database for follow up and notification by their local health department.

More information about these protocols, including testing, contact tracing, quarantine/isolation and event guidelines, can be found at: <https://inside.southernct.edu/reopening/protocols-mitigation-strategies>



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 2021](#) website.

It's Success Week! Please check out the many programs happening this week to support your success for the fall semester!



SUCCESS Week



Monday, 9/13 - Friday, 9/17

MONDAY 9/13

24-hour Success Tips

Tune into @scsu_casas and @scsu_orientation on Instagram every hour on the hour starting at 8:00 am for 24 hours of academic success tips!

TSA Kaitlyn and Commuter Tips

1:00 pm-2:00 pm | Buley Patio

Learn about the resources, tips about commuting, and have a chance to pick up some free giveaways! Let's break the disconnect commuters and transfer students may feel as we begin the semester.

TUESDAY 9/14

Success Tent Event

10:00 am - 12:00 pm | Buley Patio

Stop by the success tent to learn about the success center's many services, giveaways, and some chances to win big!

CASAS Circuit Workshop

4:00pm-5:00pm | BU 312

Come learn how to better utilize your resources on campus to get the most out of your college experience and academics. Develop your ability to advocate for yourself in the best ways possible as a student and learn how to hold yourself more accountable as you progress through your college journey.

WEDNESDAY 9/15

Commuter Convo

1:00pm-1:30pm | ASC 306

Are you a new commuter to campus? Visit the student center room 306 to meet other commuters, share your experiences, and have a chance to win a VIP Parking Spot!

CASAS Circuit Workshop

2:30pm-3:30pm | CASAS 326

You've heard of SMART goals, but have you heard of GROW goals? Join us in this workshop to establish a new set of goals for the semester and how setting healthy boundaries can help you get where you want to be!

Zen Den

Wednesday 3:00 pm-5:00 pm | BU 312

Stressed out? Need an on-campus escape? The Academic Zen Den is a space where students can go to relax and take a break from studying.

THURSDAY 9/16

CASAS Circuit Workshop

11:00am-12:00pm | BU 326

Taking asynchronous classes this semester? Need a system to hold yourself accountable to ensure you get the work done? Come join us and walk away feeling more confident about the road ahead with online learning.

Success BINGO

12:00pm-1:00pm | BU 326

Learn some study tips while competing for a prize with Bingo!

FRIDAY 9/17

"I'm Board" Game Break!

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm | BU 326

The hit New Owl Welcome program returns! Come get BOARD at CASAS with a selection of board games!

Explore New Haven Kick-Off

4:00 pm-5:00 pm | EN B121

Join other first-year students to learn about the art, food, and culture of the city of New Haven. Registration for this program is required and can be found in the @scsu_orientation Instagram bio or by emailing orientation@southernct.edu - Space is limited!

Ongoing Events

Appointment Raffle

Each time you make a tutoring, coaching, or PALs appointment with CASAS, you will be entered into a raffle! At the end of the week, we will pick three winners who will receive special prizes!

**CENTER FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS
& ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES**

Location: Buley Library 3rd Floor

Phone: (203) 932-6828

Email: casas@southernct.edu

**OFFICE OF ORIENTATION, TRANSITION
& FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**

Location: Buley Library 3rd Floor

Phone: (203) 932-5189

Email: orientation@southernct.edu

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Monday, September 13

11:00am-12:00pm

Virtual Lounge

Access Event [HERE](#)

Let's hang out! Join VPAS Center staff in our virtual lounge for some fun check-in questions and games. Come have fun and bring your friends!

12:00pm-2pm

Mending Mondays

Buley Library Makerspace

Every Monday in the Buley Makerspace (ground floor) 12:00-2:00pm. Come learn how to replace a button, fix torn hems, and cover old rips to make your clothes like new again!

12pm

Otus's Scavenger Hunt Adventure!

Access Event [HERE](#)

Oh no! You get a message from Otus saying he lost the leaves he made for Rooted in Power: A Celebration at the Survivor Tree (September 15). Help Otus find the leaves for the event and be sure to join us on September 15! When you help Otus find all of the leaves you will be entered to win an Ipad!

1:00pm-1:30pm

Ask Me Anything

Access Event [HERE](#)

Ask Counseling Services anything about mental health!

1:00pm-2:00pm

ProCon Pizza Party

ASC Theater

Kick off the first Procon body meeting where we will be having pizza and drinks and playing music trivia for prizes.

6:30pm-9pm

Get Your Boots Dirty (Greek Life Recruitment Event)

Farnham Programming Space

Come meet the sisters of Omega Zeta Pi. We hope to see you there!

7:45pm-9:30pm

Philanthropy Night (Greek Life Recruitment Event)

Student Center

Come meet the brothers of Alpha Phi Delta and learn about what we do to promote the welfare of others by supporting the Wounded Warrior Project. See what brotherhood is all about!

8pm-10pm

Rockin' the ASA Way (Greek Life Recruitment Event)

ASC Theater

Join the sisters of Alpha Sigma Alpha for our second recruitment event to meet and mingle with sisters and learn more about our organization's values and all that the Theta Sigma chapter has stood for on Southern's campus for 10 years!

Tuesday, September 14

11:00am-12pm

Livestream: Partying Safely

Access Event [HERE](#)

Join us as we unpack hook up culture and how to have safe and respectful intimate relationships.

12pm

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7:00pm-10pm

Field Hockey versus Adelphi University

Jess Dow Field

Come cheer on the Owls as they take on Adelphi University!

7:00pm-8pm

Informational with Best Buddies

Access Event [HERE](#)

Learn about Best Buddies at SCSU; who our e-board is, our mission, and what Chapel Haven is.

7:00pm-8:30pm

Let's Taco-bout SIA

ASC 305

Come join the Hermanas of Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc. for our first Fall Informational, let's eat tacos and talk about what it takes to be a Lovely Latin Lady.

8:00pm-9pm

Pillars on Skopelos (Recruitment Event)

Farnham Programming Space

Join the sisters of Delta Phi Epsilon for the first night of our Mama Mia themed recruitment. You will learn about our "pillars", core values, of Justice, Sisterhood, and Love.

8:00pm-9pm

Informational with Best Buddies

Access Event [HERE](#)

Learn about Best Buddies at SCSU; who our e-board is, our mission, and what Chapel Haven is.

8:00pm-10pm

V.I.P. Very Important Philanthropies (Recruitment Event)

ASC Theater

Join the sisters of Alpha Sigma Alpha as we host our third recruitment event to highlight our organization's philanthropies, meet and mingle with sisters, and participate in arts and craft activities to donate to one of our philanthropic organizations!

Wednesday, September 15

12pm-1pm

Meet & Greet with CohnReznick

Access Event [HERE](#)

Come meet Sarah Ricci, Senior Campus Recruiting Specialist at CohnReznick, and discuss local intern and full-time career opportunities for Southern students! CohnReznick is a national professional services firm headquartered in New York, NY, with offices in Stamford and Hartford, CT.

12pm-2pm

Pizza with Beta

Buley Patio

Beta Mu Sigma will be providing pizza to guests as they pass by!

12:30pm-1:30pm

Ice Cream with ProCon!

Academic Quad

Join ProCon for Dippin Dots!

1:00pm-2pm

After COVID: What's Changed in Career Planning

Register [HERE](#)

When it comes to the world of job, internships, and graduate school planning, new information, processes, and tasks have emerged. This workshop will discuss ways to prepare and set career related goals in the new normal after the effects of Covid-19. This workshop will be virtual.

2:00pm-3pm

WTF-Why Those Feeling?

ASC 201

Join us to unpack your feelings regarding controversial and trending topics.

5:30pm

Clash on the Court

Res Life Basketball Court

Join the SCSU Police Department, Residence Life and Athletics for an evening of hoops! Compete against or alongside some of Southern's finest. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

7:30pm-8:30pm

Latin American and Female Health in Prison Systems

ASC 303

This presentation will discuss female health and the lack of feminine care products in Latin American countries.

8:00pm

Virtual Trivia with OSILD

Access Event [HERE](#)

Join the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership for a night of amazingly random virtual trivia. Bring your thinking caps because this will not be your ordinary set of trivia questions. Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 participants.

Thursday, September 16

12pm-2pm

Corn Hole and Kan Jam (Greek Life Recruitment Event)

Academic Quad

Beta Mu Sigma Fraternity presents a nice way to relax and meet the guys by playing some yard games in-between classes.

5:00pm-6:30pm

Meet the Sisters

ASC Room 301

A social gathering to allow students to get to know the ladies of the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

7:00pm-8pm

Yom Kippur Break Fast

Hybrid

Buley Patio

Access Event [HERE](#)

Join Hillel for a Yom Kippur break-fast! The last day of the Jewish High Holidays, Yom Kippur is set aside for reflection and forgiveness, during which a fast is observed. At nightfall, the fast is broken. This Yom Kippur, we are gathering together to break the fast and celebrate the final night of the High Holidays! The break fast dinner will be provided, with a variety of bagels, toppings, and more. We will be meeting at the picnic tables in front of Buley Library, or join us for the meal on Teams.

8:00pm-9pm

Gimme Gimme Gimme a Philanthropy (Greek Life Recruitment Event)

ASC 305

Join the sisters of Delta Phi Epsilon for our second night of our Mamma Mia themed recruitment. You will learn about our philanthropies and our 5 S's.

8:00pm-10pm

Backstage Pass to Sisterhood (Greek Life Recruitment Event)

ASC Theater

Join the sisters of Alpha Sigma Alpha for our fourth recruitment event to learn more about our sisterhood, our values and ideals, and to meet and mingle with sisters as we continue to learn more about you!

Friday, September 17

4:30pm-6:30pm

Volleyball versus Post University

Pelz Gymnasium

Come cheer on the Owls as they take on Post University

4:30pm-5:30pm

Hybrid Shabbat

Access Event [HERE](#)

SCSU Remembrance Garden

Join Rabbi Barbara and the Hillel E-Board for weekly Shabbat! Everyone is welcome, no matter your faith or experience! Come celebrate the end of the week with Shabbat prayers, learn about Judaism, and make new friends! We will be meeting at the Remembrance Garden, behind Engleman Hall and Morrill Hall (in case of inclement weather, we will meet in the Fireplace Lounge on the 3rd floor of the Adanti Student Center). We will also have a computer set up at the garden on Microsoft Teams if you would like to join virtually.

6:30pm-10:00pm

Football versus Saint Anselm College

Jess Dow Field

Come cheer on the Owls as they take on Saint Anselm College!

6:30pm-9pm

Wild West with Tau Kappa Epsilon and Omega Zeta Pi (Greek Life Recruitment Event)

EN A120

Join the Brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon and the sisters of Omega Zeta Pi in the Wild West!

7:00pm-9pm

Vision Boards

Farnham Programming Space

Join us in Farnham Programming Space to craft your dreams into a motivating vision board!

7:00pm-9pm

Volleyball versus Franklin Pierce University

Pelz Gymnasium

Come cheer on the Owls as they take on Franklin Pierce University!

7:30pm-10pm

B-Dubs with the Boys (Greek Life Recruitment Event)

Student Center

Alpha Phi Delta Rush Event. Come meet the Brothers of Alpha Phi Delta and enjoy a meal of wings! See what brotherhood is all about!

8:00pm-9pm

Deephers and the Dynamo's (Greek Life Recruitment Event)

EN B121

Join the sisters of Delta Phi Epsilon for the third night of our Mama Mia themed recruitment. Let the sisters get to know you during speed chatting!

Saturday, September 18

10:00am-4pm

Crescent Players Clean-Up

Lyman Center

Come join the Crescent Players in cleaning up the theatre department's spaces. Ask about this clean-up day counting towards active membership!

2pm-4pm

Volleyball versus Felician College

Pelz Gymnasium

Come cheer on the Owls as they take on Felician College!

2pm-4pm

Men's Soccer versus Saint Michael's College

Pelz Gymnasium

Come cheer on the Owls as they take on Saint Michael's College!

Sunday, September 19

3pm-5pm

Mocktails x Alcohol Awareness TedTalk

Farnham Programming Space

Enjoy a mocktail and join in on a conversation about alcohol and drinking behaviors while in college.

Resources and Information For Parents and Families

Please also consider the following resources:

- [Parent and Family Website](#)- over the course of the next year this site will continue to be developed.
- [Parent and Family Orientation Website](#)- this is where you will find information regarding the Virtual Summer Series as well as (new) the [New Student Orientation Bluebook](#). We distribute this to all students that attend orientation. We've modified it slightly for Parents and Families.
- Contact us! If you would like to talk to someone in our office, feel free to call us at 203 392 5189 (Monday-Friday, 8:30- 4:30) or email us at orientation@southernct.edu . We may not have all the answers but we will do our best to connect you with the areas that do.

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.

You were subscribed to this listserv as your email is listed in your student's profile based on their initial application to Southern.

The emails you will receive will include the information we send to your students, additional strategies specifically designed for parents/families and how they can best support their students and general information regarding the university.

As we will be intentional on the information we send, we will try not to "flood" your inbox and be very strategic on sending the most pertinent information.

We also invite you to join our Parent/Family Facebook Group, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>.

However, if you prefer not to receive future emails, please unsubscribe by visiting <https://lists.southernct.edu/mailman/listinfo/families> or simply reply to this email.
