



WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY **OPENING DAYS**

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION 2011





Welcome to Opening Days!



On behalf of the Willamette community and Opening Days (OD), I want to take this opportunity to extend an enthusiastic welcome as you launch forward into your college experience. The enclosed materials provide you with a brief introduction to the University and its orientation programs: **Jump Start** and **Opening Days**.

The transition into college is certainly an exciting one, but it does not come without its challenges. It is for this reason that we believe an orientation

week, which offers a highly personal experience as well as relevant information, is vital for providing incoming students with the first dose of confidence to succeed while at Willamette. As incoming first-year, transfer and international students living on campus, you will spend an eventful five days with two student leaders learning about Willamette and taking part in events that will help you begin establishing connections with other new students. All student athletes and transfer students living off campus will have the option of participating in either the five-day program, or a specially designed one-day program. Family members are also welcome to simultaneously join in activities during the first two days.

Throughout this exciting week, you will matriculate, begin your College Colloquium, dance a night away, participate in a grass volleyball tournament, and create many more fond memories. This is your first chance to really become acquainted with the campus and find out just how many opportunities it offers, and which of those opportunities is right for you! I encourage you to try to find a club, form an intramural team, volunteer at a local organization, or pursue an academic interest through research. The university's diverse network of students, professors, staff and alumni are here to provide you with the resources and support to succeed.

For the most up-to-date information and profiles of your OD leaders, visit the Opening Days website at willamette.edu/go/openingdays.

We hope you enjoy your summer and are looking forward to your arrival.

Kaitlyn Rice

Kaitlyn Rice '11, Opening Days Coordinator 2011

willamette.edu/go/openingdays

What is Opening Days?

Opening Days is Willamette University's five-day orientation program for new students. During Opening Days, you and your family will be introduced to all aspects of life at Willamette, such as exploring the campus, attending classes and meeting your new classmates at social events. Our goal is to make your transition into the Willamette community easy and enjoyable.

During Opening Days, you will be part of a group of about 14 new students. Opening Days leaders will guide each group. You will meet with your leaders on a daily basis, receiving important information on Opening Days events and transitioning to college life.

Who are the Opening Days leaders?

OD leaders are returning students who have demonstrated excellent interpersonal skills and a high level of involvement in the Willamette community. Opening Days leaders are selected during spring semester. They complete training both in the spring and prior to the start of Opening Days in August. The leaders plan all the Opening Days events with new students in mind. Your leaders will be contacting you throughout the summer. Enclosed in this mailing is a picture and profile of them.



2011 OPENING DAYS LEADERSHIP TEAM

Justin Wetherell '13, Sarah Sonnenfeld '12, Tej Reddy '12 and Molly Ward '13

What is College Colloquium?

Willamette's College Colloquium provides first-year students with a unique opportunity to pursue their intellectual passions from the first moment they arrive on campus. The course will be the academic centerpiece of your first semester at Willamette University.

The word "colloquium" has been chosen carefully. It is derived from the Latin "colloqui," meaning "to talk together." The word conveys a conversation that is both structured and informal, a meeting of minds that is both serious and spirited. This is not a course in which somebody lectures and you listen. It is a course in which you participate actively in the discussion of questions that you feel are important. We don't believe you should have to wait until your junior or senior year to enjoy classes like this.

Central to the colloquium is the idea of intellectual freedom — your freedom to choose a topic that mirrors your interests and to pursue questions that fire your imagination. Faculty from every department and program across campus teach in the College Colloquium, from music and physics to history and philosophy. In these colloquia, you will pursue questions about popular culture, science and ethics, insanity, religion, skepticism, heroism, violence, resistance, privacy, revolution — the list of topics is rich and the possibilities endless. In choosing your colloquium, you will be taking an important first step in creating your intellectual journey at Willamette.

That journey begins, crucially, in a small classroom setting. Enrollment in each colloquium is limited to 14 students for several reasons. First, a small class helps to develop a culture of active participation. Second, it enables the instructor to give close and careful attention to student writing. Third, it promotes a close and meaningful relationship between students and professor.

Your colloquium teacher will be your academic advisor, at least until you declare a major. When you select your colloquium, therefore, you will also be selecting your advisor, the person who will help you to plan your coursework in your first year or two at Willamette. We believe that good advising requires your advisor to know you both as a person and as a student, and to know your interests and capabilities. The colloquium will end after the first semester, but your close relationship with your advisor (and your colloquium classmates) will continue long after the course is over.

What is a typical day like during Opening Days?

BUSY! Take time to review the Opening Days schedule on pages 8–10. During Opening Days, it is important to realize that first-year students will spend a considerable portion of time in their College Colloquium. This commitment, plus the numerous programs in which all new students will participate, leaves little time for errands and other outside activities during the first three days of the program. If you are a football, soccer or volleyball student-athlete or are participating in tryouts for the visual and performing arts, your free time will be even more limited. We urge you to complete your errands and buy your move-in necessities before coming to campus.

What is the family's role in Opening Days?

Parents and family members are welcome and encouraged to participate in the first two days of Opening Days. Several informational sessions on topics such as residence life, technology, the academic environment and answers to general concerns will be offered.

How does Opening Days address the needs of transfer and non-traditional students?

The needs of transfer and non-traditional first-year students are often different than those of traditional first-year students. To meet those needs we have designed a special orientation experience for transfer and non-traditional students. If you are a transfer student living off-campus and/or playing volleyball, soccer or football you will participate in the one-day program on Monday, August 29 (see the schedule and additional information listed in this booklet). In addition to the one-day program, transfer students living on campus and non-traditionally aged first-year students should participate fully in their Opening Days groups. The leaders of these groups are specially trained to facilitate your unique transition to Willamette University. No matter your age or the number of credits you are transferring, your Opening Days leaders will be a valuable resource to guide you in your transition.

Are there any costs associated with Opening Days?

For students there are no additional costs to participate in the Opening Days program, with the exception of the Willamette Night at the Volcanoes and Opening Days Group Activity on Saturday, August 27, where students will be expected to bring spending money for activities such as movies or eating out. The student meal plan starts at dinner on Thursday, August 25.

For parents and family members, meals are not provided. There are two meals during Opening Days that require tickets for parents and family members: The picnic dinner on Thursday, August 25 and lunch on Friday, August 26. You may purchase tickets in advance online at willamette.edu/go/openingdays. Tickets will also be available for purchase at Opening Days check-in, but you are encouraged to purchase in advance to take advantage of a discounted price online.

Goudy Commons and the Cat Cavern will be open for all other meals, accepting cash or debit/credit cards.

What if I still have questions?

Enclosed in a future parent mailing will be a magnet listing important University phone numbers. We encourage you to place the magnet on your refrigerator for easy access. There is more information on the Opening Days website at: willamette.edu/go/openingdays, and all Willamette departments can be accessed through the University's website at willamette.edu.

Recommended Reading

We have provided a list of books that have served as invaluable resources to parents and family members across the nation. All of these books may be ordered from The Willamette Store at 503-370-6315 or thewillamettestore.com with free shipping.

- **Letting Go: A Parent's Guide to Understanding the College Years** (5th ed.) by Karen Levin Coburn and Madge Lawrence Treeger (\$14.99)
- **Almost Grown: Launching Your Child from High School to College** by Patricia Pasick (\$14.95)
- **When Your Kid Goes to College: A Parent's Survival Guide** by Carol Barkin (\$14.99)
- **Don't Tell Me What to Do, Just Send Money: The Essential Parenting Guide for the College Years** by Helen E. Johnson and Christine Schelhaus-Miller (\$17.95)
- **The Happiest Kid on Campus: A Parent's Guide to the Very Best College Experience (for You and Your Child)** by Harlan Cohen (\$14.99)
- **The iConnected Parent: Staying Close to Your Kids in College (and Beyond) While Letting Them Grow Up** by Barbara K. Hofer and Abigail Sullivan Moore (\$15.00)
- **I'll Miss You Too: An Off-to-College Guide for Parents and Students** by Margo E. Woodacre Bane and Steffany Bane (\$12.95)

STUDENT PROGRAM*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

Check updated schedule at Check-in.

8–11 a.m.	Opening Days Check-In: Orientation Packet Distribution, Residence Hall Key Pick Up, Student ID Card Pictures <i>Cat Cavern, Putnam University Center, 2nd floor</i>
	After completing the Opening Days Check-In, students are encouraged to move into their residence halls, and begin completing items on the “settling-in” check list. The first required Opening Days event is at 2 p.m.
2–2:45 p.m.	Welcome Program for New Students and Families
3–4:15 p.m.	Opening Days Group Session
4:15–5:30 p.m.	College Colloquium (first-year students only)
5:30–7 p.m.	Picnic Dinner and Entertainment (free for new students — tickets required for parents and family members)
7–10 p.m.	Residence Life at Willamette — Meet Your Resident Assistant

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

7–9 a.m.	Goudy Commons Open for Breakfast
8:30–10:15 a.m.	College Colloquium Prep Time
10:30 a.m.–noon	Opening Convocation featuring Robert Hass, U.S. Poet Laureate (1995–97), National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize Winning Poet, and Environmentalist and Professor of English at University of California-Berkeley
Noon–1:30 p.m.	Lunch (free for new students — tickets required for parents and family members)
1:30–3 p.m.	College Colloquium
3–4:30 p.m.	Goodbyes and Free Time
4:30–7 p.m.	Dinner
7:30–8:30 p.m.	Matriculation Ceremony
9–11 p.m.	Decades Dance Wear your favorite '60s, '70s or '80s costume!

STUDENT PROGRAM*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

8:30–10:30 a.m.	College Colloquium Prep Time
10:30 a.m.–noon	College Colloquium
Noon–3 p.m.	Lunch with College Colloquium Section
3–5 p.m.	Free Time
5–8 p.m.	Willamette Night at the Volcanoes
8–11 p.m.	Opening Days Group Activity

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

10:30–11:30 a.m.	Interdenominational Worship Service
Noon–4 p.m.	Grass Volleyball Tournament
5:30–6 p.m.	Opening Days Group Session
6–7:30 p.m.	Reality Check
7:30–8:30 p.m.	Opening Days Group Session
9:30–11:30 p.m.	Willamette Night Out

MONDAY, AUGUST 29

9–10:30 a.m.	College Colloquium
9 a.m.–5 p.m.	One-Day Transfer Orientation Program
10:30 a.m.–3 p.m.	First-Year Student Academic Advising (scheduled individual appointments with advisors as requested)
11 a.m.–3 p.m.	Lunch
3–6 p.m.	Service Project and Opening Days Group Session
4:30–7 p.m.	Dinner
7 and 9 p.m.	“Sex Signals” Educational Program (required for all first-year students)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30

7–10 a.m.	Breakfast
8 a.m.	Classes Begin
8:30–9:30 p.m.	Residence Hall Community Meeting (required for all first-year students living on campus)

*Note: This is an abbreviated schedule. For a complete schedule, go to:
willamette.edu/go/openingdays.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

8–11 a.m.	Check-In Pick up an Opening Days packet just for families! <i>Cat Cavern, University Center, 2nd floor</i>
10 a.m. and 1 p.m.	Campus Tour
2–2:45 p.m.	Welcome Program for New Students and Families
3–4:30 p.m.	Program: Campus Life at Willamette
4:30–5:30 p.m.	Parent Regional Reception
5:30–7 p.m.	Picnic Dinner and Entertainment Tickets available at willamette.edu/go/openingdays
7–8 p.m.	Program: Residence Life at Willamette

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

7:45–10:15 a.m.	Parent & Family Programming
9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.	Campus Tour
10:30 a.m.–noon	Opening Convocation featuring Robert Hass, U.S. Poet Laureate (1995–97), National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize Winning Poet, and Environmentalist and Professor of English at University of California-Berkeley
Noon–1:30 p.m.	Lunch Tickets available at willamette.edu/go/openingdays
2–3 p.m.	Letting Go
3–4:30 p.m.	Goodbyes and Free Time

Opening Days Check-In: On Aug. 25 from 8 to 11 a.m., all new students and their families need to pick up an Opening Days packet in the Cat Cavern. This packet will include a complete schedule for Opening Days with locations of events and additional information.

Parking: Permits are not required on campus during Opening Days weekend. However, all city parking meters will be enforced.

Driving Directions: Traveling north or south on I-5, take the North Santiam Highway exit (#253) and turn west onto Highway 22 (Mission St.). Follow Mission St. approximately three miles to the railroad overpass and take the exit marked “Willamette University.” Stay in the left lane as the exit divides. Immediately ahead on your right is the Willamette University campus. The first right turn after the intersection of 12th and Bellevue Streets is the entrance to the main university parking lot.

Air Transportation: Portland International Airport (PDX) is 65 miles north of Salem. HUT Shuttle Service offers 11 round trips daily between the Salem Red Lion Hotel and Portland. (Advance reservations are required.) The cost is \$35 one way. Information at 1-888-257-0126 or portlandairportshuttle.com.

Train Transportation: Amtrak offers daily north/south service to Salem. Salem’s Amtrak station is located across the street from the southeast corner of the Willamette campus.

Bus Transportation: Greyhound Bus Lines serve Salem throughout the United States. The bus depot is located at 450 Church St. NE (five blocks from campus).

Accommodations: willamette.edu/map/index.html or call the Willamette University Travel Center at 503-370-6388.

Special Access Needs: Willamette provides sign language interpreters or other access needs upon request. If you or a member of your family desires ASL, or other accommodations contact the Office of Student Activities prior to August 1.

Interpreter Services: Willamette provides language interpreters upon request. If you or a family member desires such service, contact the Office of Student Activities prior to August 1.

Health History and Immunization Documentation: The form must be submitted to the Bishop Wellness Center by Aug. 1, 2011. In compliance with Oregon law, every entering student must provide evidence of having received two doses of measles vaccine on or after the first birthday with a minimum of 30 days between doses. Your spring course registration will be held unless this information is provided. You may access the form at willamette.edu/dept/health/index.html.

Questions?

Call the Office of Student Activities at 503-370-6463, Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (PDT) or check the Opening Days website: willamette.edu/go/openingdays.

You may also email Kaitlyn Rice, Opening Days coordinator, at krice@willamette.edu.

*Note: This is an abbreviated schedule. For a complete schedule, go to: willamette.edu/go/openingdays.