

OFFICE OF NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2020

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MISSION & VALUES

OUR MISSION:

TO WELCOME, ASSIST, AND SUPPORT NEW STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND GUESTS AS THEY TRANSITION TO, AND THROUGH, THE WCU COMMUNITY

OUR VALUES:

INNOVATION, PRIDE, INCLUSION, PARTNERSHIP, ACCOUNTABILITY

STAFF



Devan Zgleszewski
Associate Director of New
Student Programs



Ellen DiSanti
Assistant Director of
New Student Programs



Ann Mitchell
Assistant Director of
New Student Programs



Maria Turner
New Student Programs
Administrative Support

Before publication of this report, former senior director of New Student Programs, Dr. Kristin Austin, left the University to pursue another career opportunity. A national search for a new director will take place in the fall 2021 semester.

GRADUATE STAFF



Abbie Demcher
Graduate Intern
West Chester University
HEPSA



Delaney Logan
Graduate Intern
West Chester University
HEPSA



Tom Moran
Graduate Intern
University of Pittsburgh
NODA



MaryClare Rae
Graduate Assistant
West Chester University
HEPSA



Nzingha Wright
Graduate Intern
West Chester University
HEPSA

ORIENTATION STAFF



4 Leadership Team Members +
38 Orientation Leaders =
42 Dedicated Team Members

Fun Fact: 6 orientation team members
were Honors College students!

COMMITMENT TO COLLABORATION

The Office of New Student Programs is committed to collaboration with outside vendors and West Chester University campus partners to provide impactful orientation programs for all new students

Sex Signals
Caricature Art
Cooking with Chef Jeff
Mind Reading
Intention Bracelets
Murder Mystery
Mohammad Bilal
Virtual Lip Sync

Wellness Promotion
Campus Rec Center
University Libraries
Success Coaching (LARC)
Center for Civic Engagement



COMMITMENT TO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Devan Zgleszewski: NODAC, NODA First-Generation Network Chair, NASPA

Ann Mitchell: NODA Annual Conference

Ellen DiSanti: NODA Annual Conference, Presented at Middle States Association of Collegiate Registrars and Officers of Admissions (MSACROA) Annual Conference

Maria Turner: PASSHE Orientation Conference & Large Institution Network Forum

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

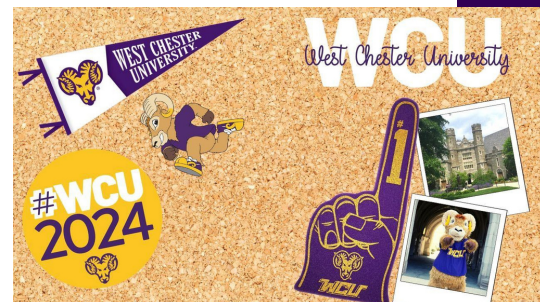
ORIENTATION LEADER TRAINING

Former senior director, Dr. Kristin Austin, offered orientation leader training on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion titled ***Diversity Dialogues***

RAM MEET & GREETS

Ram Meet & Greets offered new Rams a chance to meet other new students with similar life experiences, identities, and interests, including:

- Marching Band
- Hillel - Jewish Student Space
- West Chester's First - First-Generation Student Space
- Dowdy Multicultural Center
 - Mixed Students Space
 - Native American/Indigenous Students Space
 - Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Student Space
 - Black Students Space
 - Undocumented Students Space
 - Latinx Students Space
- Dub-C Autism Program
- Veteran's Center
- Army ROTC
- Gender Justice
- Cultivating Healing: A Space For Those Who Have Been Impacted By Violence
- BI&POC Women & Femmes
- Fraternity & Sorority Life
- Center for Trans and Queer Advocacy
 - Welcome to WCU Trans and Queer Rams
 - Welcome to WCU Queer and Trans People of Color Rams



COVID-19 PANDEMIC

PLANNING DURING A PANDEMIC

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, The Office of New Student Programs moved all trainings and orientation programs online.

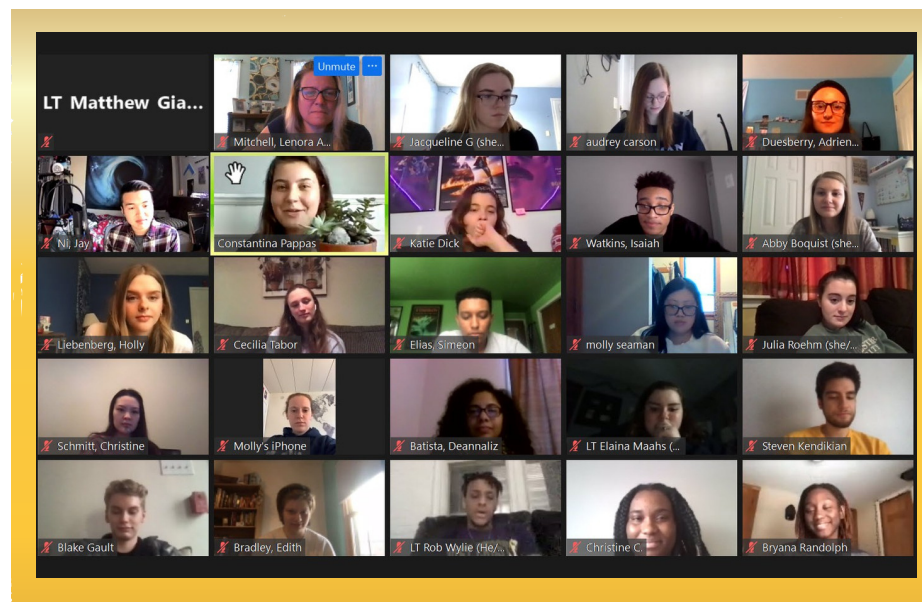


Technology such as Microsoft Online, Microsoft Teams, Band, OneDrive and Zoom kept team members connected and fostered collaboration.



TRAINING DURING A PANDEMIC

Nine training sessions were offered online for the six leadership team members and 38 orientation leaders during the semester. An additional seven days of virtual training took place before the start of summer orientations.



ORIENTATION 2020

LIVE Q&A SATURDAYS

On July 11, 18 & 25, and August 1, 8 & 15, orientation leaders hosted live Q&As with staff from campus offices to answer questions from students and families

Residence Life & Housing	9AM - 9:30AM
Off-Campus & Commuter Services	9:30AM - 10AM
Academic Affairs	10AM - 10:30AM
Student Leadership & Involvement	10:30AM - 11AM
Ram Card Office	11AM - 11:30AM
LARC	11:30AM - 12PM
Financial Aid & Bursar	12PM - 1PM

TRANSFER STUDENT Q&A

On Sunday, August 16, transfer orientation leaders held a Q&A session to answer questions from transfer Rams and families

University Student Housing	9AM - 9:30AM
Off-Campus & Commuter Services	9:30AM - 10AM
Financial Aid & Bursar	10AM - 11AM
Transfer Support	11AM - 12PM
Ram Card Office & Campus Store	12PM - 12:30PM
LARC	12:30PM - 1PM

WELCOME WEEK 2020

Welcome Week 2020 was a virtual experience held over five days, that served 2,408 new students

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Outside Vendors*

Monday Welcome Week Kick-Off, *Salsa Magic**

Tuesday ROTC Fun Run, Morning Recreation, Sustainability Program, WCU Department Breakouts, Major Meetings, Cohort Meetings
**Sex Signals, Playfair, Mind Reading Show, Cooking with Comedian Chef Jeff*

Wednesday Morning Recreation, Sustainability Program, WCU Department Breakouts, Major Meetings, Title IX Module, Cohort Meetings
**A Better High, Sex Signals, Playfair, Intention Bracelets, Meditation & Mindfulness*

Thursday Morning Recreation, WCU Votes, WCU Department Breakouts, Major Meetings, Cohort Meetings
**A Better High, Virtual Caricatures, Sex Signals, Playfair, Hollywood Murder Mystery*

Friday Morning Recreation, Understanding First Year Schedules, Navigating Virtual WCU
**Mohammad Bilal Equity & Inclusion, Virtual Lip Sync Battle*

Saturday First Generation Student Meet & Greet

STUDENT PARTICIPATION INCENTIVES

Students earned Ram points by attending events throughout the week

A WCU T-Shirt!



A WCU Sweatshirt!



A Backpack!



A Water Bottle!



A Virtual Gift Card!



A Diploma Frame!



1-29
Ram Points!

30-39
Ram Points!

40-59
Ram Points!

60-79
Ram Points!

80-99
Ram Points!

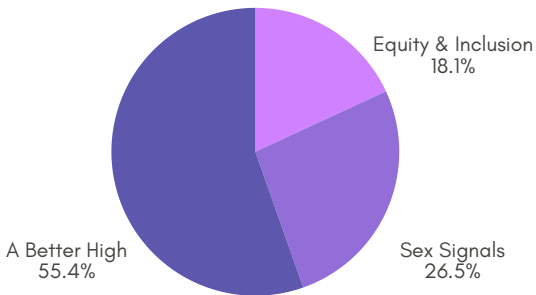
100+
Ram Points!

SUMMER ASSESSMENT 2020

WELCOME WEEK: AUGUST 17-22, 2020

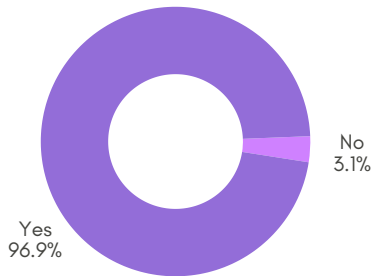
SURVEY A

When surveyed, students found these sessions "informative and educational."

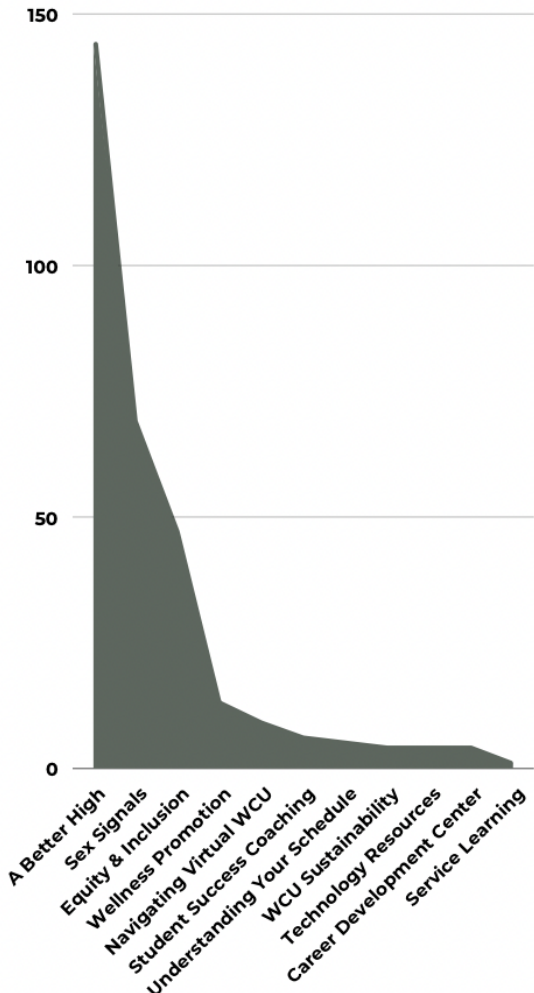


SURVEY B

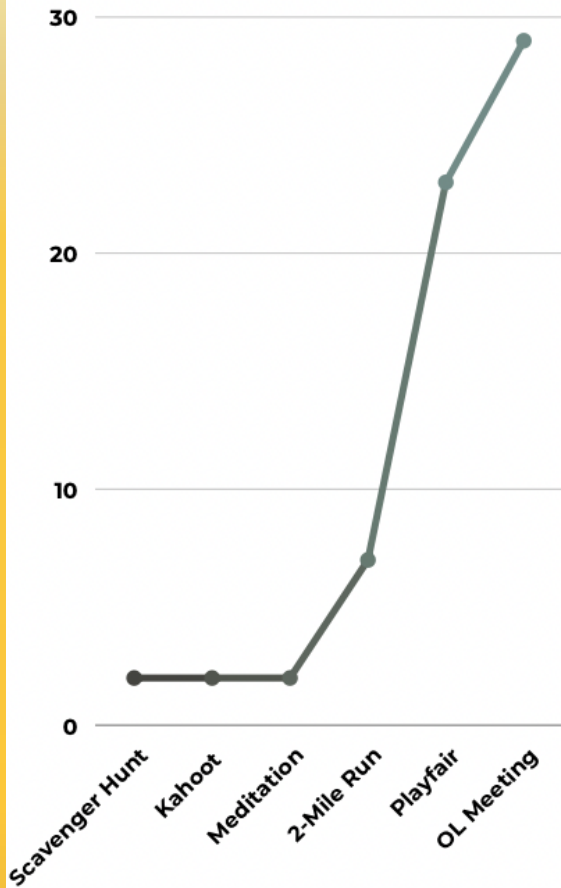
When surveyed, the majority of students would recommend sessions to others.



306 students gave feedback on 11 sessions - three mandatory and eight elective.



65 students submitted surveys for 6 sessions - 96% recommend the sessions to others



JANUARY ORIENTATION

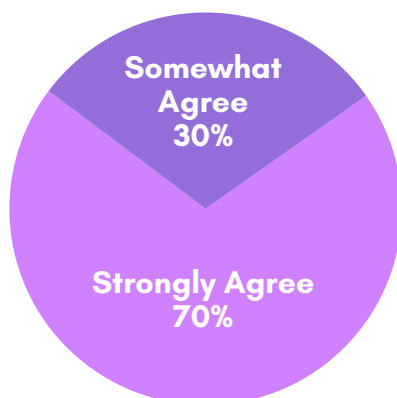
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

9 – 9:15 AM	New Student Programs
9:15 – 9:30 AM	Student Leadership & Involvement
9:30 – 9:45 AM	Student Success Coaching
9:45 – 10 AM	Transfer Concierge
10:00 – 10:15 AM	Off Campus & Commuter Services
10:15 – 10:30 AM	Career Development Center
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Counseling Center
10:45 – 11 AM	Residence Life & Housing
11 – 11:30 AM	Financial Aid
11:30 – 12 PM	Breakout Rooms*
12 – 12:30 PM	Breakout Rooms*
11:30 – 12:30 PM	Pre-registered Financial Aid Meetings

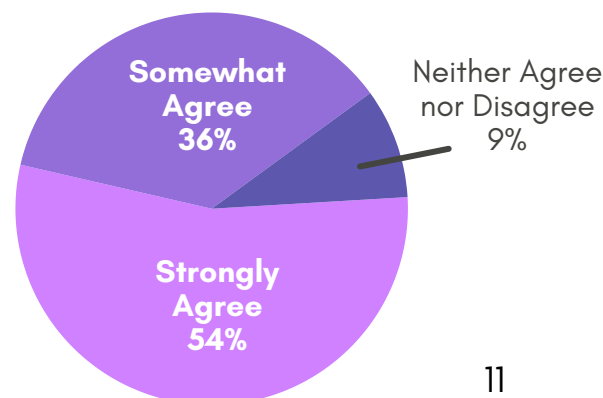
*Breakout rooms were hosted by the Dowdy Multicultural Center, Center for Trans & Queer Advocacy, First-Generation Student Programs, Wellness Promotion, IS&T, Student Support Services, Campus Recreation & Army ROTC

JANUARY ASSESSMENT

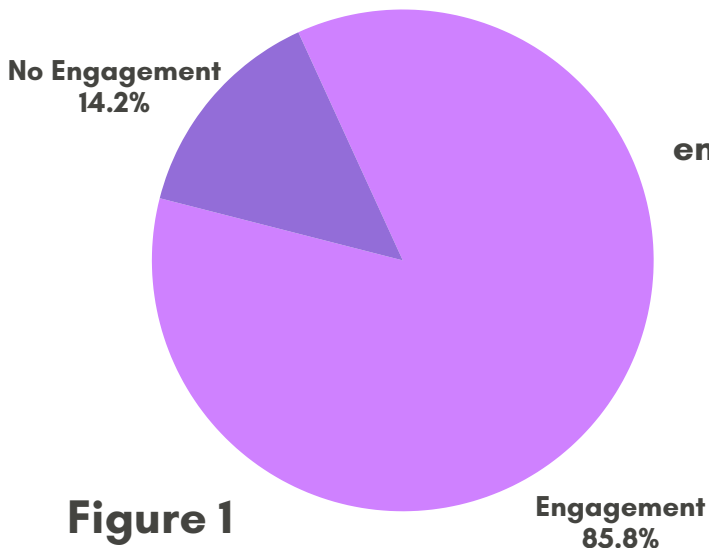
70% of participants “strongly agree” that they have a better understanding of support services available to help them succeed at WCU, while 30% “somewhat agree”



After attending January orientation: 54% of participants “strongly agree” that they feel more connected to the university; 36% “somewhat agree”; and 9% “neither agree nor disagree”



NEW GOLDEN RAMS



85% of new Golden Rams engaged in orientation activities as demonstrated in Figure 1

Orientation and Welcome Week Programs served 2,408 New Golden Rams

Figure 1

New Golden Rams by Major

7 Anthropology	45 History
38 Biochemistry	13 Languages & Cultures
190 Biology	11 Liberal Studies
19 Biochemical Engineering	61 Mathematics
34 Chemistry	19 Media & Culture
46 Communication Sciences & Disorders	38 Middle Grades Preparation
170 Communication Studies	89 Music
80 Computer Science	106 Nursing
128 Criminal Justice	37 Nutrition
200 Early Grade Preparation	13 Pharmaceutical Product Development
5 Earth-Space Science	4 Philosophy
40 English	24 Physics
6 Environmental Health	37 Political Science
128 Exercise Science	488 Pre-Business
538 Exploratory Studies	194 Psychology
26 Forensics & Toxicology Chemistry	8 Public Health
3 Geography	21 Social Work
2 Geoscience	13 Sociology
9 Graphic & Interactive Design	16 Special Education
21 Health & Physical Education	7 Studio Arts
48 Health Science	15 Theater
	7 Urban & Environmental Planning



WCU SPIRIT



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