Socially Challenged First Year!

**FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE**

Students entering university for the first time may experience social and academic transitions.

There are unprecedented challenges for students in their first few months upon entering university but this is a normal feeling.

My first year experience as an HR student was quite an exciting time for me. But one of the hardest parts was building connections which are one of the main aspects of being successful.

In order to be successful, you will need to navigate various resources and build relationships. Preparing to join York’s community can seem hard to get through. As a fourth year student I recommend using the YU START program as one of your main resources to begin your journey at York University. Utilizing YU START will help you make connections by engaging in online discussions with peers in your program. You can use this link to get more details about the program: [http://yustart.yorku.ca/](http://yustart.yorku.ca/)

Another way to join the community is by getting involved with your respective college: [http://colleges.yorku.ca/](http://colleges.yorku.ca/). Colleges are places in which you can study, relax with friends and connect with others from your program. There are even resources to help you with coursework and participate in educational events such as resume building or Excel workshops. Essentially, colleges are places that make you feel more at home. I encourage every student to get involved in their college because it will ease the transition and enhance their experience at YorkU.

Alexa Lopreato (BHRM, Class of 2016)

**Why Should You Attend Frosh Week?**

As the last month of summer rounds the corner, first-year students are nervously anticipating Frosh Week here at York University. Some students might not want to participate in the different social events that are ahead, while others are excited to learn faculty cheers and attend club fairs! I will admit it; I was one of those students who did not participate in the university-sponsored frosh week activities when I was in my first year. Of course, I went to events that included free food and even free swag, but when the icebreakers and embarrassing school cheers started, that was my cue to leave!

Now being in fourth-year, I reflect on how much O-week can be an invaluable experience for incoming students. Most of the daytime events are geared towards getting students better prepared for the fall and winter academic semesters and better prepared socially.

During York Orientation Day (September 7), activities include getting to meet professors, classroom/building tours and even break-out groups with students from the same department. The day events can provide students with an opportunity to meet a variety of different people, including the overly-preppy frosh leaders! The student leaders, also known as Frosh Bosses love to have fun, help people and volunteer their time to make sure that first year students get to know the York University Campus so they can start on a good note when school commences!

So if you are first-year and are still on the fence about whether you should attend Frosh Week or at least Orientation Day, I hope this article has persuaded you to come out and enjoy the entertaining events that we have planned for you this year!

Juliana Primiani (4th year, BDEM)

**A message from the Master**

August will be over before we can say Jack Robinson and then another school year will begin. For first year students the academic year will start September 3 with the launch of Orientation Week and Move-in Day. Wednesday, September 7 will bring together new in-coming students, professors, staff, all the student volunteers, peer mentors, club executives, council members for York Orientation Day or in other words New College Academic Orientation. The day will end with fireworks! At the present time we all work hard at making this event a success for our new students.

What’s new at New College for the 2016-2017 academic year? Professor Andreas Strebinger left his position as College Academic Life Coordinator. Andreas has done an excellent job during his two-year tenure, and we will continue working at branding the Atkinson Building as New College. Andreas has been instrumental in raising awareness on how New College needs to be made more visible. As of July 1st, the position has been filled with Professor Souha Ezzedeen from the School of HRM. Souha brings her enthusiasm and dynamism, and will continue Andreas’s work with PASS Program, peer mentors and events.

In the past two years our programs have expanded; we have noticed an increase in attendance, and a growing interest in our workshops. We will continue to offer and deliver good quality workshops as of September. Messages you receive from <newcol @yorku.ca> come from New College. Read them! And don’t forget to check our website.

Enjoy summer as much as you can even if you are taking courses. But a great new academic year is awaiting you, and we will be happy to make it more enjoyable.

Christian Marjollet (Master of New College)
Peer Mentorship Program! What’s the deal?

PeerMentoring

Have you ever helped someone in need and after doing it, it made you feel better about yourself? Well the Peer Mentorship Program is for you! Are you interested in helping first year students transition smoothly into university? Are you also eager to share your experiences as a first-year student?

What is the Peer Mentoring? The New College Peer Mentorship program is a program that helps first-year ADMS, DEM, HRM and ITEC students have a smooth transition into university life, while at the same time giving upper-year students a volunteering opportunity to develop their leadership skills by helping a new member of the York community.

To become a Peer Mentor, you have to:

- be a New College student preferably in the BAS (any specialization), BHRM, BDEM or BA ITEC program.
- have strong written and verbal communication skills as well as be in good academic standing.
- be at least 2nd year level standing (that is, have completed 30 credits) at the start of your mentoring term (typically the beginning of the Fall term).

What’s in it for you as a Peer Mentor? You get to help others and make new friends. You also receive a Peer Mentoring Certificate in order to build your resume and get YU Connect volunteer hours. You get a great learning experience and you receive training in case you are wondering what to do.

For more information on the peer mentorship program, visit http://new-college.laps.yorku.ca/get-involved/be-a-peer-mentor/.

Keitha-Ann Cenac (Peer Mentor)

Introducing New College Council

New College Council (NCC) is a student-run government that aims to better students’ university experience through programs and events such as orientation week and intramurals. Our office is located at 104 Atkinson, come by and meet the council during our office hours in September. Currently we have fifteen council members, expecting to expand when elections take place in the Fall. New College Council’s Executive Team includes Alessandro Cesario as President, Veronica Rondinone as VP Operations, and Anthony Di Vito as VP Finance. NCC is comprised of the following elected members: Dominic Ong as VP Social, Iboro-Obong Ekefre as VP Athletics, Teja Bellary as VP Academics, Gabrielle Dias as VP Promotions, Sierra Carney as Director Social, Haile Wondwossen as Director Athletics, Ahmed Nasman as YFS Director. Lastly, NCC hired Gayathri Sadanandam as Secretary, Alisha Cater as Speaker, Daniel Audisho as Chief Returning Officer (CRO), Nancy Rostom and Giancarlo Onorati as Orientation Chairs.

Stay in the know of all things New College and LIKE us on facebook at ‘New College at York University’.

Veronica Rondinone (VP Operations, New College Council)

3 Interesting facts about New College

- New College was founded in 2009 and has had this name from that time.
- New College Orientation is an awesome experience (Academic and Frosh Week). It will run from September 3rd to 11th. York Orientation Day is September 7.
- New College has many opportunities for paid and volunteer positions (e.g. Peer Mentors and Pass Leaders)

Upcoming Events/Announcements

- York Orientation Day - September 7, 2016 at 1pm
- Free Hump day Café every Wednesday beginning in fall.
- Are you interested in becoming a University experience Presenter? Visit http://new-college.laps.yorku.ca/get-involved/university-experience-presenter/