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Office of Graduate Student Services
Welcome Letter

Welcome to graduate student life at Wesleyan! The graduate community is made up of approximately 200 students working toward MA or PhD degrees in Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Science, Mathematics and Computer Science, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Music and Ethnomusicology, and Physics. Also part of the graduate community is a group of non-degree seeking students who are spending time at Wesleyan as Foreign Language Teaching Assistants, German Exchange students, and Writing Fellows.

The Office of Graduate Student Services will be your primary administrative office. It is staffed by Cheryl-Ann Hagner (Director) and Barbara Schukoske (Administrative Assistant V). Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30-5pm. The office is located on the first floor of the Exley Science Center, rooms 128-132. The office suite includes a small lounge that is available to graduate students 24 hours per day, seven days per week. We are here to help you and hope you will not hesitate to contact us if you have a question before you arrive or to stop in once you have arrived. Please email your questions to Barbara Schukoske bschukoske@wesleyan.edu.

This packet includes important information related to your arrival at Wesleyan. Please review the information and contact us if you have any questions.

Arrival Dates: We recommend you arrive at least one week before the start of classes to allow ample time to get settled in your residence and familiar with the Wesleyan campus and the local town. Classes begin on Thursday Jan 22, 2015.

Travel Arrangements: Please notify us (via email to bschukoske@wesleyan.edu) of your expected arrival day/time. For additional information on getting to Wesleyan from an airport or train/bus station, refer to the Frequently Asked Questions section of this web page: http://www.wesleyan.edu/grad/student-services/newstu_info_packet.html.

Housing: Some graduate students live in Wesleyan-owned graduate housing and some live in non-Wesleyan owned properties. For information on Wesleyan-owned graduate housing options: http://www.wesleyan.edu/reslife/grad_housing/index.html. Wesleyan-owned housing is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Submitting your application as early as possible is strongly advised.

Orientation: You will meet with the Office of Graduate Student Services for a brief Orientation. We will share instructions on enrolling in the university and registering for classes and collect important paperwork related to stipend payments and tax forms.

Immigration: International students will receive a questionnaire from Janice Watson, the Coordinator of International Students. Please return the questionnaire as soon as possible. This is the first step in the visa application process. NOTE: Visas for international students who are sponsored by an organization outside of Wesleyan such as Fulbright or USAID will not receive a questionnaire from Wesleyan. The sponsoring organization will process the visa.

Wesleyan Email Username: You will soon receive your Wesleyan email username and a temporary password and instructions on how to access Wesleyan email from off-campus.

We look forward to meeting you and helping you with a smooth transition to life at Wesleyan.

Sincerely,
Cheryl-Ann Hagner Barbara W. Schukoske
Director, Graduate Student Services Administrative Assistant V
Housing Options
Graduate Students have the option to live in Wesleyan-owned housing or in units that are privately owned. The Office of Residential Life coordinates Wesleyan housing. The Office of Graduate Student Services posts announcements about privately owned housing options to a graduate student list serve.

Wesleyan Housing
Wesleyan housing is available to graduate students currently enrolled in a graduate program and their immediate family members (domestic partners/spouses and children or legal dependents). Rentals are organized through the Office of Residential Life.

Types of Wesleyan Housing
There are three options for Wesleyan graduate housing: one-person apartments, group housing, and family housing. Descriptions of available housing and rental rates are posted on the Office of Residential Life website: http://www.wesleyan.edu/reslife/grad_housing/grad_options.html

Applying for Housing
It is recommended that you apply for housing as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to meet your housing preference; however, housing is provided on a space-available basis and is not guaranteed. Upon receiving notification of your assignment, you will be given the opportunity to decline Wesleyan University housing prior to signing your lease. The application is available http://www.wesleyan.edu/reslife/grad_housing/housing_application.html

Lease
Students must sign a binding lease with the University upon receiving keys for their unit. Signing the lease indicates an agreement to live in Graduate Housing for the duration of one academic year. All leases end on May 31st of each year.

Important Dates
Applications for Wesleyan graduate housing are due as soon as possible.

Contact Information
If you have any questions, please contact Amy Miller in the Office of Residential Life at 860-685-3550 or resife@wesleyan.edu
Wesleyan University
Health Insurance

University policy mandates that all students maintain health insurance in order to avoid potentially difficult and costly medical situations and to ensure that medical services outside the University Health Center are covered. Wesleyan provides the following options for health insurance coverage.

1. Gallagher/Koster: Please see the Gallagher/Koster web site for policy information and rates: https://www.gallagherkoster.com/. Graduate students selecting this plan are responsible for enrolling by the enrollment deadlines posted on the University Health Services web site http://www.wesleyan.edu/healthservices/geninfo/insurance.html.

2. CIGNA: This plan is limited to full-time, degree-seeking graduate students who receive a stipend. It is not available for non-degree seeking students such as foreign language teaching assistants, German exchange students, Ford Fellows, etc. Enrollment is processed through the Wesleyan Office of Human Resources. For information about the CIGNA plan and rates: http://www.wesleyan.edu/hr/health/health.html. Please note that graduate students are not eligible for dental insurance.

3. Wesleyan graduate students are eligible to access healthcare services at the University's Davison Health Center. Services are available during academic sessions. For more information about the Davison Health Center: Davison Health Center Services.

Students may elect to provide their own insurance and must submit proof of insurance to the Office of Graduate Student Services. Students will be required to sign an insurance waiver form. Failure to provide proof of insurance and submit a signed waiver form will result in automatic enrollment in the Gallagher/Koster health plan. This one-time charge will be billed to the student’s account.
April 2, 2012

To: All incoming Graduate Students
From: Davis Smith MD, Medical Director
Re: Health Form/Vaccination Compliance and Tuberculosis Screening

Welcome to Wesleyan. To fully qualify for enrollment, all incoming students must meet certain health standards set by the State of Connecticut and the university. These include compliance with vaccination against Measles, Mumps and Rubella, Tuberculosis blood testing and possible testing for Hepatitis B. You must also complete a health form found online at www.wesleyan.edu/healthservices/geninfo/forms/healthforms.pdf.

Please refer to the table below for the procedures and costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis blood test</td>
<td>Lab cost if testing required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis blood test</td>
<td>Lab cost if testing required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Measles, Mumps, Rubella vaccine confirmation</td>
<td>Lab cost if titers required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* $21 vaccination fee if vaccine requested instead of blood titer confirmation

Thank you for your cooperation with this procedure. If you fail to provide a health form or comply with the required screening, a hold will be placed on your enrollment and purchase of books. Please note - It takes about twenty-four hours for a hold to clear.
Wesleyan University
2014/2015 Stipend Information

The 9-month stipend year for new graduate students runs from September 1 through May 31.

Stipends are paid bi-monthly on or around the 15th and the 30th of each month. If you reside in University housing, rent is automatically deducted twice each month from your stipend payment.

Graduate students, except international students, are responsible for determining their own tax liability. New graduate students are required to complete forms W-4 and CT W-4 and submit an I-9 employment form. This will be done during Orientation. You will not receive a stipend payment until these forms are completed and submitted. If you have questions regarding your tax forms or tax status, please contact the Payroll Office at payroll@wesleyan.edu.

The Payroll Office will assist new international students in determining your tax status while at Wesleyan. Please address questions relating to income taxes to the Payroll Office at payroll@wesleyan.edu. Be sure to identify yourself as an international graduate student.

A limited number of dependency allowances are available each year. Information on the dependency allowance and applications are available in the Office of Graduate Student Services. When approved, payments will be made via Direct Deposit on the first pay period of each month.

Please direct questions about stipends to Cheryl-Ann Hagner, Director of Graduate Student Services, 860-685-2223, chagner@wesleyan.edu.

Stipend Amounts for 2014/15

- 9 month stipend for new students in Science and Math = $20,632.50
- 12 month stipend for continuing students in Science and Math = $27,510.00
- 9 month stipend for Music Master’s = $13,411.00
- 12 month stipend for Music Master’s = $17,881.00
- 9 month stipend for PhD Music = $17,537.00
- 12 month stipend for PhD Music = $23,383.00

Dependency Allowance: $130 per approved dependent, per month
Wesleyan University
International Students
U.S. Income Tax Information and Requirement

Students who enter the United States in either an F-1 or J-1 visa status are usually considered non-resident aliens for income tax purposes during the first five calendar years present in the U.S. Compensation and miscellaneous payments may be subject to income tax withholding and/or reporting. Collection of information and data assists Wesleyan in determining a student’s tax residency status. Non-resident aliens are taxed under a separate set of IRS rules than U.S. citizens, permanent residents or resident aliens.

DURING ORIENTATION
- Provide personal information on a Foreign National Information Form (FNIF).
- Complete and sign U.S. Federal and CT state income tax withholding statements, or W4 forms.
- Complete and sign a USCIS Employment Eligibility Verification, or I-9 form.
- If applicable, sign a Tax Treaty Exemption Statement, or 8233 form. More than 60 countries have tax treaties with the U.S. If a treaty benefit is available to a student, the student may take advantage of the benefit and should sign a tax treaty form each year in January.
- Sign a Certificate of Foreign Status of Beneficial Owner for United States Tax Withholding, or W-8BEN form.

Please note that initial income tax related documents will be collected during Orientation. Thereafter, income tax processing is administered in the university's Payroll Office.

ANNUALLY
- Receive a W2 earnings statement from the Payroll Office each January. If a student receives a check from Wesleyan Payroll anytime during a calendar year, he/she will receive a W2 earnings statement the following January. Create a folder labeled “Wesleyan Income Taxes” and save all tax documents in a safe place.
- Receive a 1042-S statement from the Finance Office each February. If a student receives a non qualified scholarship and/or a tax treaty exemption from Wesleyan during a calendar year, he/she will receive a 1042-S statement the following February. Save in the “Wesleyan Income Taxes” folder. A 1042-S form is not issued for a student who receives a qualified scholarship.
- All students who receive either a W2 or 1042-S statement during a calendar year are required to file a U.S. federal income tax form, or 1040NR, by the following April 15th.
- All students who do not receive income during a calendar year are required to complete a Statement of Exempt Individuals, or 8843 form, and submit to the IRS by the following June 15th.
- Wesleyan provides its international students access and instructions to a web-based tax filing software called FNTR. We strongly recommend non-resident alien students use FNTR to prepare their 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ or 8843 forms. The software is easy to use and accurate. Instructions and passwords are provided to students by the Payroll Office every year during February/March.
Dear New Graduate Student:

Congratulations on choosing Wesleyan University to help you further your education. We look forward to your arrival and the opportunity to provide you with your Wesleyan University photo identification card, the WesCard.

Your WesCard is essential to access the University libraries, dining facilities, the Freeman Athletic Center, and any residence halls where you may reside. You also have the option of participating in the Middletown Cash Program, through which you may deposit and use money on your card to purchase meals at local restaurants, use laundry facilities on campus, purchase books or other items at Broad Street Books and participating Middletown merchants, and much more. For extensive information about your Wesleyan ID and instructions on how to obtain your Wesleyan ID, please visit our website at http://www.wesleyan.edu/wescard/glspgradinfo.html.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (860) 685-5300. Best wishes for a successful academic term.

Sincerely,

Cathy – Lee Rizza
Assistant Director of Student Accounts/WesCard Office
Office of Graduate Student Services
Electronic Communication

There are three list-serves available for communication within the graduate community. In early June, new graduate students will receive a Wesleyan email address, username and password. This information will be sent to your personal email address. Your personal email address has been added to the list-serve for new graduate students #1 below. You may use this immediately as a method to ask questions. All new students are on this list. Everyone on this list will see all emails sent to this address.

1. new_graduates_q_a@wesleyan.edu
   - Your personal email address was added to this list upon your acceptance.
   - All new, incoming students, administrators in the Office of Graduate Student Services, and a few current graduate student volunteers receive this list.
   - We use this list to communicate information to new incoming students.
   - You may not unsubscribe from this list.
   - You may post any questions you have about Wesleyan to this list.

2. GSA-Announce@wesleyan.edu
   - This list is comprised of the Wesleyan email address of all graduate students.
   - This list will be used for important announcements from the Office of Graduate Student Services or from Wesleyan.
   - This list is not used to communicate information that is not official Wesleyan business i.e. rental advertisements and rideshare requests.
   - You may not unsubscribe from this list.
   - You may not post notices to this list.

3. gsa@wesleyan.edu
   - This list is used for messages that are not official announcements from this office or from Wesleyan. It is for sharing informal information such as rental opportunities or rideshare requests.
   - The Wesleyan email addresses of all new incoming graduate students are added to this list.
   - You may unsubscribe from this list.
   - You may post to this list.
   - Students who have unsubscribed and would like to re-subscribe may contact Barbara Schukoske at bschukoske@wesleyan.edu.

Information Technology Services (ITS)

Wesleyan’s investment in Information Technology is part of the overall commitment to the well rounded liberal arts education for all students. We regard the ability to engage technology as one of the essential capabilities that Wesleyan graduates must develop for the 21st century. For more information about the technology and services offered to Wesleyan’s students, staff and faculty click on the following link: http://www.wesleyan.edu/its/