Dear Parents and Families of Students in the Class of 2024:

As the end of the year approaches, the pace of life on campus has quickened. Students have shifted their focus to working on final projects and term papers, all the while squeezing a few precious moments into their busy schedules to savor the lovely spring weather. Classes end on Wednesday, May 4, followed by reading week and final exams from May 5 through Friday, May 13. University housing will close at noon on Saturday, May 14. For students who will be studying abroad next year or who have friends who will be graduating, the next few weeks are precious, a time when long hours in the library may be interrupted by the need to say goodbye to a dear friend with a big hug and a promise to stay in touch.

The end of the sophomore year is a milestone in the Wesleyan career. Students have declared their majors and are settling into their new intellectual homes. And now that they have access to seats reserved for students within the major, course pre-registration is a much more satisfying and predictable process. Rising juniors also rank higher in the housing lottery, giving them more and better choices with their living arrangements. At the same time, the realization that one’s college career is now half-way over can cause some students to feel uneasy. As a parent, you can help temper this uneasiness by letting your student know that by starting the process of post-Wes planning this summer, the final two years of college will feel much more purposeful and fulfilling.

Next year, about half of the students in the Class of 2024 will participate in study abroad. Wesleyan students travel to the far corners of the globe during the junior year and immerse themselves in the study of language, culture, and society in ways that can profoundly transform their personal lives and intellectual development. While most students are well prepared for their travels, it is important to remember that life in a foreign county can present unforeseen challenges, which may seem especially daunting to a parent who may learn about these difficulties from half a planet away. Keep in mind that support resources for students are built into every Wesleyan-approved study abroad program and that learning how to deal with the unexpected when so far away from home is one of the reasons that the study abroad experience can be so beneficial.

I will be writing to you again in late summer. In the meantime, please feel free to call or write if you have any questions or concerns. In addition, if
Wesleyan University

you haven’t yet had a chance to do so, please take a few minutes to check out the 2024 class photo.

Best wishes,

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