

A dark, monochromatic background featuring a dense, repeating pattern of stylized leaves and flowers, resembling a tropical or botanical motif.

WELCOME TO WIESS



DEAR NEW WIESSMEN,

Welcome to Rice University and Wiess College! You are about to enter one of the most exciting phases of your life. Rice University has so much to offer, and we believe there is something for everyone on campus, whether that be cheering for Rice's Division I sports teams, participating in theatre productions, or conducting ground-breaking biomedical research. Best of all, you've been placed into Wiess College!

Over the past three years at Rice, we have both come to see Wiess as our home and family. Every person's involvement with Wiess is different (just ask the two of us), but know that you can always be comfortable here. There is always a fellow Wiessman willing to help or give advice if you reach out. Everyone has different experiences at Rice, but there's almost always someone who has gone through what you're going through. College is your chance to break out and explore whatever may interest you, and while that may be scary, take comfort in knowing there is a large group of people who have your back and can help you through rough times.

We know the transition from high school to college can be daunting, but we're here to help! With the assistance of many exceptional people at Wiess and across campus, we've put together this book to try and answer many of the questions you may have. We may be a little biased, but we really believe the information in this book will help make your transition to Rice as smooth as possible.

Welcome to Team Family Wiess! We're so excited to meet you!

TFW,
Ryan and Shannon

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YOUR WIESS MAILING ADDRESS

[Your name]
Wiess College
6340 Main St.
Houston, TX 77005

Please note that you can only mail or ship things to arrive after **Aug. 17**. Our space is limited and not secure, so please bring important items with you. There will be plenty of time to purchase other personal items during and after O-Week.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions about life during O-Week or at Rice?

Head Fellows Ryan and Shannon
wiessweek@gmail.com

Questions about how the Adult Team plays a role at Wiess?

College Masters Dr. Alexander Byrd
axb@rice.edu

Questions about administrative policies and procedures?

College Coordinator Ewart Jones
Office: (713) 348-5743
ewart.g.jones@rice.edu

Questions/comments about Wiess or ideas on how to make Wiess even better?

College President Alex Tran
agt1@rice.edu

Want to learn more Wiess before you arrive?

Website teamwiess.com





O-WEEK



WHAT IS O-WEEK?

You may have some expectations for your college orientation, but they probably aren't as high as they should be. At Rice, Orientation Week (which will almost always be referred to as O-Week) provides you with a foundation for everything you need to know to succeed at Rice—along with an introduction to Wiess, your home for the next four years. As soon as you arrive on campus, you'll be greeted by our fantastic advising team. The team is made up of some of the best students that Rice has to offer, each specially selected and trained to give you the smoothest possible transition into college. Shortly afterwards, you'll be introduced to your O-Week group, a small group of new students with diverse backgrounds and interests. Together, you'll journey through an exciting week that lingers in students' memories long after they graduate.

Half of O-Week is dedicated to academic advising. As the first day of classes approaches, you may be growing nervous that you haven't picked a course schedule yet—but don't worry. We'll have more academic resources than you could ever imagine at O-Week. Peer Academic Advisors, Divisional Advisors, and individual departments will give you

plenty of guidance, while the rest of the advising team will help you to understand what these resources are and how to use them effectively. But while academics may be the one of the main draws of Rice, college life is more than just classes. The other half of O-Week is devoted to student life, within Wiess and Rice as a whole. We will discuss extracurricular involvement, health and wellbeing, diversity, safety, the alcohol policy, and the academic Honor Code. In addition to our advising team, you'll also be introduced to the Wiess A-Team: the Masters, Residential Associates (RAs), and College Coordinator, who will be adult resources throughout your Wiess tenure. Together, our priority is to provide you with an O-Week that leaves you well-equipped and confident in tackling your first year at Rice.

Students often name O-Week as a major factor that makes our student body one of the happiest in the nation. It provides a common experience that every Rice student goes through and helps create the community that make friendships at Rice so powerful. Get ready for an amazing week!

MOVE-IN INFORMATION

Please plan to arrive at Wiess the morning of **Sunday, Aug. 16**. Specific instructions and times for the Sunday move-in will be emailed soon.

Once you arrive, you'll be greeted by our friendly O-Week team, who have anxiously been awaiting your arrival for months (and we do mean months!). It's best to unload your things onto the sidewalk and then move your car to a parking lot so that other families can unload as well. Our team will label your belongings with the proper room number and help you carry everything to your room. We will have carts to transport your heavier items.

After unloading your belongings, you will go to a reception at the Master's House, where you will meet the Masters and the RAs. Then you will go to the Commons to meet Ewart, our College Coordinator, so you can check in and get your key. We'll have people guiding you on where to go, so don't feel like you need to memorize all of this!

Lunch will be served in the Commons and after that, it's time to say goodbye to your families. You will meet up with your Fellows, and your family will remain in the Commons. From there, your introduction to Wiess College and Rice University will officially begin. Get excited!



WHAT TO BRING

DON'T FORGET

- Extra long twin bed linens: sheets, comforter, blanket
- Pillow
- Towels
- Toiletries
- Laundry detergent (High Efficiency, or HE)
- Laundry basket
- Alarm clock
- Backpack and school supplies
- Computer
- Money (cash, credit cards, checks, etc.)
- IDs
- Up-to-date medical insurance or prescription card

NICE TO HAVE

- Floor or desk lamp
- Power strips and extension cords
- Mini fridge
- TV and/or DVD player
- Extra furniture: couches, tables, chairs for your common room
- Rain gear: umbrella, rain boots, rain jacket
- Printer
- Bike (and lock)
- Snacks
- Water bottle
- Plates and eating utensils
- Iron and ironing board
- Basic tool set

WIESS ALREADY HAS

- Bed
- Desk and desk chair
- Closet and dresser
- Trash cans/recycle bins
- Washers and dryers (don't worry, they're free!)

You'll have a roommate and two suitemates, so contact them before you arrive to see what you can share (e.g. couches, TVs, mini fridges, etc.)

GETTING TO RICE

FLYING TO HOUSTON

Houston is served by two major airports: George Bush Intercontinental (IAH) and William P. Hobby (HOU). Hobby is closer to campus, but IAH is served by more airlines. You can take a taxi, Uber, or Super Shuttle directly to campus. The shuttle costs about \$20 from Hobby and \$30 from Intercontinental. We recommend you call and make a reservation in advance: (713) 523-8888.

MAPS TO RICE

rice.edu/maps/getdirections

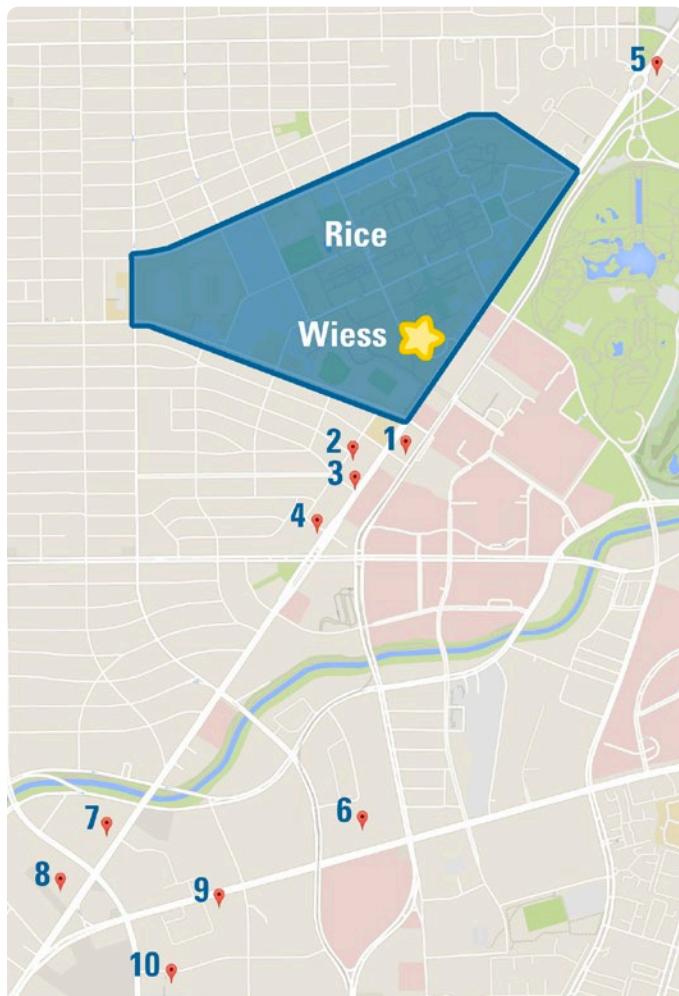
HOTELS NEAR RICE

- 1 Houston Marriott (Medical Center)
6580 Fannin St., Houston, TX 77030
713-796-0080
- 2 Hilton Houston Plaza (Medical Center)
6633 Travis St., Houston, TX 77030
713-313-4000
- 3 Best Western Plaza Hotel & Suites
6700 S. Main St., Houston, TX 77030
713-522-2607
- 4 Wyndham Houston (Medical Center)
6800 Main St., Houston, TX 77030
713-528-7744
- 5 Hotel ZaZa
5701 Main St., Houston, TX 77005
713-526-1991
- 6 Hampton Inn & Suites (Medical Center)
1715 Old Spanish Trail, Houston, TX 77054
713-797-0040
- 7 Residence Inn (Houston Medical Center)
7710 S. Main St., Houston, TX 77030
713-660-7993
- 8 Holiday Inn Express & Suites (Medical Center)
8080 S. Main St., Houston, TX 77025
713-665-4439
- 9 Springhill Suites (Medical Center/NRG Park)
1400 Old Spanish Trail, Houston, TX 77054
713-796-1000
- 10 Holiday Inn Houston (Reliant Park Area)
8111 Kirby Dr., Houston, TX 77054
713-790-1900

DRIVING TO CAMPUS

- **From IAH** Follow signs to 59 South. Then follow the "From 59" directions below.
- **From 59** Exit Greenbriar and head south. Follow Greenbriar and take a left onto University. Then turn left on Main. Make a left into Entrance 4 and continue around the bend to Wiess.
- **From Hobby** Follow signs to 45 North and then exit to 610 West. Then follow the "From 610" directions below.
- **From 610** Exit Main and head north. Continue along Main past University and turn left into Entrance 4.

If your parents would like to stay around Houston before or after they drop you off, here are some options for hotels near Rice.





WIESS

ABOUT WIESS

HISTORY OF WIESS

Welcome to Team Family Wiess! Like any family, we have traditions and a long history, most of which is passed down through oral tradition, usually beginning with the phrase, "Back when Wiess was cool...". You'll soon learn, though, that Wiess always has been and always will be cool. While we'll never be able to document the vast amounts of wisdom you'll pick up from your upperclassman and alumni friends, we'll attempt to give you a brief history of where we've been and who we are now. So pull up a chair and let us tell you about a magical place called Wiess College (w-l-ess, rhymes with Rice).

In the beginning, there was one man. Harry Carothers Wiess, famed oil tycoon and founder of Humble Oil (which goes by Exxon-Mobil today), left Rice a big chunk of cash upon his death in 1948 for the building of Wiess Hall, the fourth residential hall on campus.



In 1949, Wiess opened for business. In its modest beginnings, Wiess had only 100 rooms and a small Commons. The unique "Motel 6" design with outdoor hallways and wrap-around balconies brought instant notoriety for its rowdy social atmosphere. The addition of wings to the original design split the college into two sections, each with their own courtyard and personality: the Acabowl, where the action was, and the Backabowl, where a quieter atmosphere prevailed for sunbathing or studying. "Old Wiess," as it's become known, was built to last, and it did, through 2002. But we're getting ahead of ourselves.

In 1957, the residential college system began at Rice. The four residential halls (East, South, West, and North) became Baker College, Will Rice College, Hanszen College, and Wiess College, respectively. Each had its own dining hall, Commons, Masters, and self-governing body of students. Over time, each began developing its own distinctive personality. Wiess identified itself as a spirited college, this spirit was embraced and embodied in the color voted on in the early days to represent us: gold (which became the goldenrod we know and love today in the '80s).

In the early years, certain aspects of Wiess were vastly different from today. The first master, Dr. Roy Talmage, was a conservative and strict man. He instituted mandatory Wiess blazers (complete with crests) for formal Sunday dinners, where freshmen served upperclassmen a family-style dinner while sporting goldenrod and navy beanies to distinguish themselves (a tradition which, thankfully, died out quickly). Despite the formality of Sunday supper, Wiessmen found time to create some of their own unorthodox customs that became known as distinctly Wiess. These included the third-floor dangle and the Ubangee. Although the Ubangee is still proudly practiced in a slightly modified form, the dangle disappeared as human life became more valuable.



The '60s brought fewer milestones to Wiess, but they did bring one of our proudest traditions. In 1964, an ambitious Wiessman named George Grenias wrote

and composed a complete musical, *Hello, Hamlet*, spoofing Shakespeare through creatively re-lyriced show tunes. He wrote and put on the entire show in a matter of two weeks. Performances of *Hello, Hamlet* continue to grace the stages of Wiess every four years. It was last performed in Spring 2012, which means you'll have a chance to join in on this tradition this upcoming year!

In the '70s, the Wiess we know today started to take shape. College rules were relaxed, and women gained unlimited visiting hours. Huge parties, which were the best on campus, became common. Then came the now-famous "Team Wiess" cheer derived from a blend of a '70s Xerox commercial with the phrase, "Team Xerox," the movie The Longest Yard (in which football fans chanted the phrase, "Mean Machine"), and the TeamBank chain of banks. The "Team Wiess" cheer made its debut at Beer Bike in 1975 when we celebrated our glorious win. Since then, the deep, resonating chant has become Wiess' metaphorical heartbeat and our trademark on campus.

In 1988, a team of Wiessmen orchestrated the most notorious jack ever to go down in Rice history. Angered by the upcoming hike in tuition, they turned Willy's statue around in the quad to face Fondren Library, thus turning his back on the administration. The jack is still so legendary today that Rice promotes it as an example of students' creativity. Another highlight of the '80s was the addition of women to Wiess College, the second-to-last all-male college. Wiessmen welcomed women to the Wiess family, and their addition only strengthened the Wiess spirit and sense of community (and allowed us to dominate on the powderpuff field). This is when the term Wiessmen became unisex.

By the time the '90s rolled around, the administration realized that Old Wiess was literally sinking into the ground and becoming more structurally unsound. This prompted the planning of New Wiess, which opened in the fall of 2002. We now have an enormous courtyard, still called the Acabowl after the old main

courtyard, and a gorgeous Commons. The exterior hallways that were (and are) the pulse of the college still remain, but since moving to New Wiess, we've also added the Acaglider, the Acagrills and, most recently, the Acahammock. Wiess Day has become an annual tradition, as has the O-Week mango-eating contest. NOD has grown with the times, and our distinctive wooden warpig was created in time for Beer Bike 2012. Soon enough, you'll learn all about these traditions.

The greatest thing about Wiess is that while we hold our traditions near and dear to our hearts, we know that there is always room for improvement. And unlike other colleges, our spirit, team atmosphere, and pride continue long after O-Week is finished. While everyone else thinks we're a pain in the ass, we're pretty crazy about ourselves. And we plan to keep it that way.



THE A-TEAM

The A-Team is the adult team of Wiess and has been an integral part of keeping Wiess traditions and culture alive throughout the years. The team consists of the Masters, RAs, and College Coordinator. All of them are great resources and people you should feel comfortable talking to. They are there for you, no matter what you need; you can go to them for advice or just for a listening ear. Like everyone else at Wiess, they can't wait to meet you!



MASTERS

The Byrds are anxious to meet you! Dr. Byrd teaches in the History department and has worked at Rice since 1998. He was born in Hawaii, and grew up in Colorado Springs, as well as right here in Houston. A student of eighteenth-century Afro America and of modern African-American life in the United States, he is especially interested in the history of the transatlantic slave trade and the course of school desegregation in the south. He's just as keen, though, to hear about your plans for the world and what you want from your time at Rice and Wiess.

Mrs. Byrd is an educator and is currently the principal of Cummings Elementary School in west Houston. She hails from western Kentucky, and was educated at Berea College and at the University of London. If you are considering a career working with young people, she's a good person to talk to. Mrs. Byrd also loves to move! She's addicted to early morning Boot Camp at the nearby YMCA, and is always down for a jog, a brisk walk, or impromptu aerobics.

The Big Byrds have been married since before the advent of the World Wide Web, and have picked up two other Byrds along the way: Benjamin and Jenna. Benjamin (15) loves basketball, but also classical and jazz guitar. Jenna (11) is more given to

gymnastics and sprinting. The two are voracious readers and avid swimmers. Both have been educated in several of the city's Spanish immersion schools. So code-switch with them (really, please... their parents can't).

All of the Byrds live adjacent to Wiess at the Wilson House. You'll see them at meals, Wiess events, and across campus. But what are Masters, really? In a word—they're a resource. If you're ever feeling a little lost, don't hesitate to head on over. They're eager to help you navigate the university, your courses, and Houston at large. When you have a particularly proud moment, let them know. They want to celebrate with you. There will also be ample opportunity to hang out with them at the house. Get ready for "Solos and Duets," and other study breaks. You can even take a class there: Dr. Byrd generally teaches a biweekly, evening college course (he taught "Black Men Writing" and "Black in School" last year).

Find Dr. Byrd on Twitter (@ricewilsonhouse) and Instagram (@wilsonhousetfw), and follow him to get a head start on the year ahead (and a view of years past)!

RESIDENT ASSOCIATES



RENATA AND LENIN

Renata is not known for making many mistakes, but once upon a time she was an Associate at a lesser college. She was quick to fix that lapse in judgment and dragged Lenin to join TFW. This will be their fifth year as RAs! Gavin (also known as the Acatoddler) and Evan (known as the Acababy) have been Wiessmen all their lives: they were born across the street, but only took 36 hours to find their ways to Wiess. These four from the third floor love to spend time around Wiess, and their door is always open if you want to chat, relax, or simply have somebody listen to you.

Besides being RAs at the best college, Renata teaches in the Bioengineering department, Lenin works for Schlumberger, Gavin loves to play in the Acabowl, and Evan goes wherever everyone else goes since he cannot move on his own. They enjoy food and travel and can be found regularly cheering for the Battlesows on the powderpuff field. Lenin likes scuba diving and Renata likes horseback riding, so Lenin dials back his respect for horses to go riding and Renata chooses to forget the reasons why humans are not aquatic to go diving. Gavin absolutely loves baseball, frisbee, balls, and the trampoline and he can be spotted playing in the Acabowl most days (he'll drag you to play if you let him). Evan is always eating or sleeping, but will most likely be running around by the time you graduate. Join them for dinner, a movie, Monday Night Football, or barbacoa study break!



EMILIE

Emilie ("Emmie") is the fourth floor RA. She is a scientist (Materials Science) educated at Northwestern and Cambridge University. She is fascinated by understanding the world around her by shooting lasers and electrons at it, and also has wide-ranging interests and an always positive personality. Amongst her hobbies, she spends several days a month traveling, lots of it for work; she enjoys every moment of it. She also loves when people travel to see her, and several times a year she hosts her brother AJ or her partner John; both get involved with college life by co-organizing study breaks... Speaking of which, watch out for Emmie's famous pancake study breaks, as well as liquid nitrogen ice cream shows!

Emmie is a seasoned runner, and has completed six marathons so far. She is eager to share her love of running and healthy living with fellow Wiessmen. Look for her weekly running schedule in your inbox, and come join her for a moderate-pace three- to six-mile run around campus! She also loves speaking her native French, going to the symphony and studying alongside Wiessmen.

Follow Emmie on Twitter (@RingeEmilie) and check out her website ringegroup.rice.edu to see what her nanoengineering research is all about!

COLLEGE COORDINATOR



EWART

Ewart (pronounced EEE-WERT or YOU-WERE depending on if you are from Scotland) wears many hats at Wiess; a few of them have something to do with his actual job as College Coordinator. Officially, he assists Dr. Byrd with the administration at Wiess. Unofficially, he is the mail guru (he has been known to offer remedial course in envelope addressing), fax master (why are people still using fax machines?), daytime RA (someone has to do it), holder of the keys (losing your keys gets you gentle mocking and a head shake), assistant to the Wiess treasurers (reluctantly), career counselor (we all need jobs) and human almanac (if he does not know the answer to your question, he will try to find it or direct you to the Google machine on the inter web).

He can be found Monday through Friday in the Wiess office and if you don't mind sass, you are free to come by and chat him up, but bring your A-game. Bottom line: Ewart exists in his current form to make your life at Wiess function as smoothly as possible.

From time to time you will see two smaller, female versions of Ewart running around. Don't be alarmed, those are his daughters, Vivian and Tabitha. Vivian will talk to you, Tabitha won't. They are super cute and somewhat entertaining. If you like bow ties, cycling, photography and the Dallas Cowboys, you and Ewart will get along just fine (and even if you don't like those things...).

THINGS YOU CAN DO IN THE WIESS OFFICE

- Borrow a room key if you've locked yourself out of your room.
- Borrow a key to the bike closet.
- Get envelopes and buy stamps to update your family with some good ol' snail mail.
- Staple or punch a paper or document.
- Pick up a package.
- Drop off outgoing mail—campus or snail.
- Grab some candy to calm your nerves before a test!
- Make copies (\$0.10 per page).
- Send a fax.
- Scan a document.
- Stop by and chat with Ewart!



PRESIDENT



Alex Tran. Tranosaurus Rex. Wiess College President. Traaaaaaaaaan. All of these words can and have been used to describe this wonderful man, but none can encapsulate all the nuances of who he is. This Economics major embodies all the exceptional things that Rice University students have to offer, from his determined performance in the classroom to his dedication to improving Wiess College to his absolutely peerless ability in Super Smash Bros. He came into this world and university from the distant foreign land of Channelview, TX (which Google Maps says is exactly 25 minutes from Wiess in current traffic conditions) and immediately took the college by storm, as pictures from the O-Week 2012 photo album will clearly attest to. Now, three years and at least 30 pounds of muscle later, he's here as the wise senior who will help you become the best member of Wiess that you can possibly be. Despite his seemingly endless list of responsibilities and meetings that come with the office, he does in fact have a life outside of Wiess, where you can find him at Vietnamese Student Association events, restaurants that sell burgers, or carrying the Wiess flag (he's not allowed to have *that* much of a life outside of Wiess). The sooner you become his friend, the better.

—Ryan Deal (Wiess '16)

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello, new Wiessmen! My name is Alex Tran, president of Wiess College. Don't take me too seriously, however—I know I wouldn't! I hope that you are all having a great summer so far, and I really cannot wait to meet all of you.

As new members of Wiess College, you are all making history, entering a long lineage of amazing and talented individuals! Before starting your college journey, however, you will be preparing for your Rice career at Orientation Week, which many Rice students say has been one of their best experiences. With that in mind, I'd like to impart with you a couple of tips for Rice that I hope you all consider.

First, be open-minded. I know I came into college with a lot of preconceived notions, most of which were a bit misguided, or even outright wrong. There are truly a lot of opportunities here at Wiess and at Rice—new clubs, new friends, new experiences in general. Take advantage of that! Even if you think you know yourself really well, it can't hurt to try new things. Who knows, you might find your new favorite hobby, or at least meet new people!

Second, be passionate in your pursuits. The next few years will be a great period for change as you grow into a young adult. My advice is to embrace these changes, and use this time for self-discovery. Find your true passions, and pour your heart and soul into them. Don't merely go through the motions! Grow to know yourself and what you want in life. Be deliberate in your actions. If you know who you truly are, the rest will come naturally.

There's still a lot to say, and that's because there's a lot to know about college. However, you all have years to figure all of that out! For now, just know that all of us here at Wiess College are extremely excited to meet you. Wiess is a place rich with tradition, history, and opportunity—we hope you can find your home away from home at Wiess College.

—Alex Tran (Wiess '16)

WIESS CABINET

It's Wednesday, 10 PM. Do you know where your roommate is? Probably at Cabinet, Wiess' governing body, which holds open meetings every other Wednesday in the Upper Commons. All Wiessmen are encouraged to partake in the precarious balance of bedlam and decision-making that ensues in the biweekly meetings. With food, beverages and costumes relevant to the arbitrary weekly themes, Cabinet is one of the best ways to get involved at Wiess. Cabinet positions are filled in the spring semester, so the following officers (with the exception of the freshmen reps—this could be you!) have already begun their tenure.

With the exception of the Off-Campus Reps and First Year Reps, here are the Cabinet offices, who holds the position these days, and a little description of each position. The roles are more formally described in the Wiess Constitution, which can be found at teamwiess.com/#!resources.

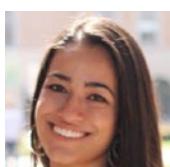


President: **Alex Tran** is in charge of overseeing Cabinet meetings and all other Wiess activities, as well as representing Wiess around campus in a ridiculous number of meetings.

Though he's busy campus-wide, Alex's favorite part of the job is helping his beloved Wiessmen achieve their goals and grow through leadership experiences at the college.



Internal VP: **Lucy Matveeva** is second-in-command under Alex, and is in charge of the Wiess-only events like Summit and Pumpkin Caroling, as well as our numerous rep positions.



External VP: **Yasmin Khalfé** is Wiess' link to the community through the Associates program. She sets up Associates with O-Week groups and plans semi-formal dinners so we can chat with our Wiess community beyond the hedges and thank them for everything they bring to the college. Yasmin is also in charge of the Associates' Committee, which you can join!



Social VPs: These are the people who keep us entertained throughout the year by hosting Wiess events and organizing Cabinet meetings. **Kate Lowman** and **Monique Groen** threw an awesome Wiess Day in the spring and are already gearing up for NOD by the time you read this. They work unbelievably hard and will welcome your help in their prep and planning!



Secretary: **Meagan Dwyer** is in charge of creating Cabinet agendas, as well as jotting down meticulous and entertaining minutes at the meetings to e-mail to the college. She is also in charge of reserving public rooms at Wiess and keeping the Wiess calendar updated, so keep her contact handy!



Treasurers: The buck stops with **Michael Passalacqua** and **Renee Li**. They organize our entire budget: shifting funds around so we have money where we need it, reimbursing people, cashing checks, and generally keeping Wiess out of the red. They also update the budget online and present it at Cabinet meetings.



Off-Campus Reps: **[TBD]** and **[TBD]** represent the Wiess contingent who lives off-campus. They make sure the concerns of off-campus (OC) students are heard by Cabinet, and they plan activities aimed to incorporate OC students into daily Wiess life. We will be electing Off-Campus reps this fall once it's clear where everyone is living.



Cultural Reps: By planning events like Salsa Night and Jazz Night, **Priyanka Mehta** and **Abhijit Brahme** are in

charge of reminding us that there's a world beyond Rice. Keep in mind that any cultural event you attend off-campus (lectures, concerts, performances, etc.) can be subsidized out of their budget.



Sophomore Reps:
Addison Anders and **Tay Jacob** bring a little more sophomore leadership to Cabinet

and are, among other things, in charge of a couple of barbeques each year. They also keep track of your freshman service points, which you need to apply to live on-campus as a sophomore.



Capital Improvements: Rice allots thousands of dollars each year to each college to be spent as the college sees fit. **Yoseph Maguire** is in charge of that money, investing it in things like renovating our movie room, buying a hammock and arcade machine, and any other crazy idea you can come up with.



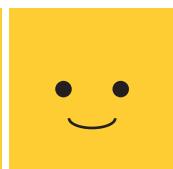
At-Large Rep: **Ryan Deal** serves as the voice of every Wiessman by conducting a number of colorful surveys and letting people know what Cabinet is doing.



Parliamentarian: To keep us all in line, **Margaret Roddy** presides over Cabinet in her chair high above the Upper Commons with requests for motions and general discipline.



Historian: **Ian Mellor-Crummey** organizes all of the pictures taken by Wiessmen, takes pictures at Wiess events (like O-Week!), and keeps records of all the random stuff we do for historical reference.



First Year Reps: [Insert your name here] and [Insert other first year student here] are in charge of helping Cabinet,

creating Wiess merchandise, and representing Wiess' newest class. This could be you!



WIESS COURT

2015-2016

Chief Justice: Vicky Comesañas

Associate Justices: Sharae DeWitt
Romil Patel
Jordan Poles
Shirley Xu

Assistant Justices: Akash Ghosal
Brian Tighe

Email: wiesscourt@gmail.com

Wiess Court is a safety net. Court makes sure that all Wiessmen are aware of and abide by the basic rules that are in place so we can keep our privileges, such as a wet campus and a quiet, trusting atmosphere. If anything goes wrong, we try to deal with it inside the college. By acting as a liaison between Wiessmen and Student Judicial Programs/RUPD, we can resolve issues quickly and effectively. When things arise that Court is not fit to handle, they may be settled by the A-Team; or if appropriate, by University Court and Student Judicial Programs.

Court's job is to support an environment of mutual respect and responsibility by enforcing both Wiess and Rice rules. Most of these rules are common sense, and even as a new student, you should have no problem abiding by them. Any academic violations should be reported to the Honor Council. However, if you've got non-academic issues, questions, concerns, complaints, problems, or irreconcilable intra-college disputes, please don't hesitate to contact any of the Wiess Court members to talk about it. With good common sense and responsibility, we can ensure that Wiess College remains a safe and enjoyable environment for all Wiessmen.

CHIEF JUSTICE



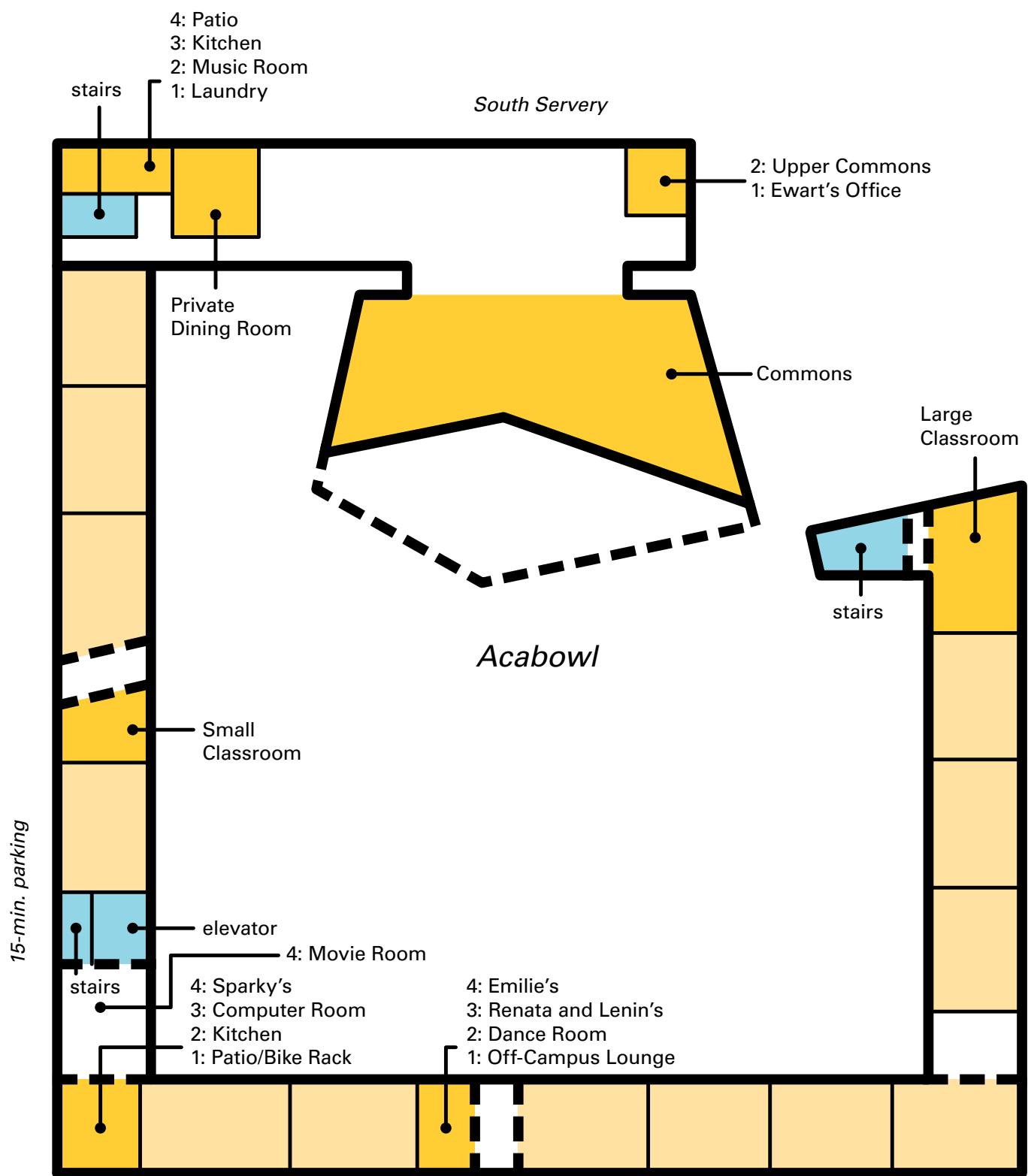
Coming from Katy, TX, Vicky Comesañas is far more interesting than the suburbs she hails from. Though she has a petite stature, a whole 5'3" above sea level, Vicky's personality is as unforgettable as her wavy locks: she is one of the most empathetic, caring people in the world and you can confide any problem you have in her.

On top of her bouncy personality, Vicky is an insanely creative individual. She devotes herself to theatre—she was the co-producer for Wiess Tabletop Theatre as a sophomore and played a snarky, intelligent Juliet in Baker Shakespeare's rendition of *Romeo and Juliet*. In her junior year, Vicky performed in *Bob: A Life in Five Acts* and *The Heidi Chronicles*. She also founded the Speak Up Project, a theatre production meant to raise awareness of sexual assault.

When she's not racing cars (oh, I forgot to mention she's been trained in performance driving), Vicky studies Political Science and Policy Studies and will be working in Argentina this summer. No. Big. Deal. The best part is that, despite all of her superhuman accomplishments, Vicky is extraordinarily humble, and always takes time to see how you're doing rather than bragging about herself. Hopefully you will have the privilege to meet her during O-Week as your Chief Justice. I know I was beyond fortunate to be in her O-Week group freshman year.

—Mason Daumas (Wiess '16)

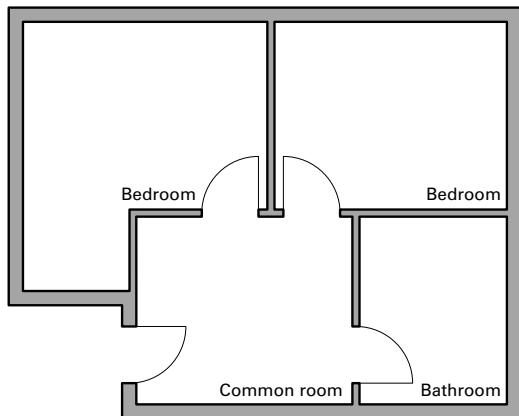
MAP OF WIESS



Learn more about suites on page 20.

Learn more about rooms at Wiess (e.g. Kitchen, Music Room) on page 21.

YOUR ROOM



One example suite layout. Minor variations occur among suites.

YOUR ROOM

Without a doubt, one of the biggest perks of being at Wiess is living at Wiess—the rooms are nice and quite spacious!

For your first year, you will be assigned to what we call a double—a suite with four people in two rooms and a shared common room. The bedrooms and common rooms are each approximately 16' x 12'. Each suite also has its own bathroom, which means no trekking down the hall in the middle of the night when you need to go.

The standard bedroom furniture for each student is a three-drawer dresser, a wardrobe closet, a desk, a desk chair, and a twin EXTRA LONG (make sure you get the right size sheets!) bed that is bunkable and can be lofted to different heights. Most people don't find it necessary to bunk their beds, and there's not much need for more furniture in your bedroom, unless you want to have a special desk chair or a simple bookshelf.

In the common room (pictured right), you will find a bookcase, tiled flooring, and space to be adventurous. Wiessmen often choose to outfit their common rooms with couches, recliners, mini-fridges, etc., but if you are apprehensive about transporting large furniture, rest assured that there is almost always cheap furniture floating around with "a lot of sentimental value." If that doesn't work out, there

are also great (read: economical) furniture places in Houston, and you can always try your luck with Craigslist. To give you a better idea about size, most common rooms can comfortably fit a large couch or two small couches, your mini-fridge, and a TV.

If you're planning to share appliances or entertainment devices (e.g. TV, DVD player) with your roommate and suitemates, make sure to communicate with them in advance. You probably don't want to end up with three mini-fridges and no microwave (or do you?).

Be advised that the bathrooms have no cabinetry so buying a plastic storage container is advisable, especially if you have lots of toiletry items.

STUDENT MAINTENANCE REP

If the process of rearranging your furniture and dealing with the maintenance of your very own room sounds like a lot for you to manage on your own, don't worry! Your Student Maintenance Representative (referred to as your SMR) is a fellow student who will be there during O-Week and throughout the year to help you with things such as lofting your bed, providing you with lightbulbs, and reporting necessary repairs. Your SMR is available to help you all throughout O-Week, but remember that during the year she is also a student with responsibilities like yours—please be flexible with your requests. Wiess' current SMR is **Morgen Smith**.



AMENITIES/ROOMS AT WIESS

Luckily your suite isn't the only thing you have access to at Wiess. You can access Wiess' public rooms with your room key! Many of these rooms have been renovated in recent years, and everything is still pretty modern because we were built so recently. But we always want to make Wiess better, so if you have any ideas about how to improve our rooms, talk to our Capital Improvements Rep.

COMMONS

Wiess is home to the largest commons on campus, which means lots of space and shockingly effective sound muffling. Bask in the sunlight streaming from our huge windows while eating lunch with fellow Wiessmen, or find a quiet table to study late at night. Our piano is popular among musicians from other colleges, too. Most big events at Wiess, such as NOD, Salsa Night, and even our Superbowl watching party, are held right here.

MOVIE ROOM

The movie room is seriously the stuff of legend and the desire of every other college on campus. We have brand new, extremely comfortable couches, stadium seating, and a recently installed projector with 4k picture capabilities (people who understand technology claim this is very impressive). This is a great place to spend a Friday night with some friends and lots of popcorn, but be sure to check the Wiess calendar online to see if it's already been reserved! Also check out the huge Wiess movie collection, housed by our Movie Reps.

LAUNDRY ROOM

When you inevitably find yourself running out of clean clothes, fear not. Wiess has its very own laundry room, and the machines are free! Just remember to follow the rules of the laundry room: if someone's wet clothes are in the washing machine, kindly move them to the dryer (on low or medium heat), and if clothes are still wet after a dry cycle, run them again! When clothes are dry, you can move them to the baskets located across from the dryers so that they are ready for pickup by your fellow Wiessmen. And while our laundry room is well-equipped, don't forget to bring your own laundry detergent!

PRIVATE DINING ROOM

The Private Dining Room (PDR) is a nice place to have meetings and is frequented by the A-Team and the Rice Philharmonics. There's a lot of Wiess history in here, including pictures of all our former Masters, and a lot of old Campanile books as well. Try to find pictures of Dr. Byrd as a student!

THIRD FLOOR KITCHEN

If you want to bake something, make popcorn, or even cook dinner on those Saturday nights when the servery is closed, the Third Floor Kitchen is the best place to do it. We recently redesigned it, with new counters, tiles, and stoves! Ask the Kitchen Reps for any baking supplies you need.

MUSIC ROOM

Don't wanna work? Wanna bang on the drums all day instead? Then check out our Music Room, located on the second floor right above the laundry room. It features a recording booth and soundproofing that sort of works. It's sure to rock anyone's world.

DANCE ROOM

Also unique to Wiess is our dance room, complete with speakers, nice wood floors and full-length mirrors. Perfect for choreographing your latest YouTube hit or your dance for the O-Week Talent Show. The dance room is located on the second floor below the RA suites.

SPARKY'S

Sparky's used to be a Wiess storage closet, but has been slowly transformed in the past five years. This vibrant goldenrod room is a great place to study, play various games with your friends, or even watch some powderpuff. We have lots of tables, mini basketball hoops, big windows, and of course, the Wiess crest. Sparky's is located on the fourth floor next to the movie room, tucked away in the corner.

WIESS TRADITIONS

It's easy to simply say that Wiess is the best college (because it's true), but as a curious new student, you're probably wondering where this supremacy came from. As one of the original residential colleges, we've developed an impressively rich set of traditions over the last 50-plus years. It may seem like there's a lot here to keep track of, but don't worry! Every Wiessman has managed to understand and love these traditions—you'll surely be able to do the same.

UBANGEE

"Ubangee seems like Wiess' way of marking its territory." —Marcela Interiano

"A time-honed tradition that utilizes the most primitive, visceral way of showing love and community pride with such vigor that it tends to frighten people." —Bo Kim

"Unconventional love." —Dan Abraham

While nothing that these Co-Fellows said on their applications was wrong, they don't quite tell the whole story. There aren't really words to describe a Ubangee, but we'll do our best.

A Ubangee is, first and foremost, an expression of love. The Ubangee combines the fun of piling on top of your friends with the simple joy of grunting. Every Ubangee has a victim, who is forced to lie helplessly under a pile of gyrating Wiessmen and one brace, who crouches over the victim to protect them from physical harm. After a satisfactory number of grunts have been emitted, the Ubangee ends with three triumphant, loud, and slow cries of TEAM WIESS.

There are numerous justifications for a Ubangee, ranging from a Wiessman having a birthday to anybody making the mistake of asking, "What's a Ubangee?" Ubangees are at their most prominent during the Beer Bike water balloon fight, as hordes of Wiessmen chase down anybody lucky enough to be picked as a Co-Fellow or unintelligent enough to target a Wiessman with a water balloon. But within Wiess, Ubangees pop up to celebrate all sorts of

special occasions. They may sound frightening from this description, but don't worry—they're magnificent and truly beautiful in practice.

POWDERPUFF

While you may not have dreamed of growing up to be a Battlesow, you may find that playing on the Wiess women's flag football team is the lifelong dream you never knew you had. Known across campus as Powderpuff, the women's flag football league is one of the most hotly contested sports leagues on campus. Wiess has won the championship more than any other college and we have the potential to add to that total this year.

But Powderpuff is about more than just titles and winning—it's also one of the most exciting events around the college. People all around Wiess get involved in the experience—from leading cheers on the sideline to organizing barbeques for supporters. And of course, members of the team get to meet other Wiess women while enjoying the beautiful Houston outdoors. No experience or "talent" is required to be on the team. Even if you don't know what a touchdown is, Wiess powderpuff offers a great chance to hang out with your fellow Wiessmen and sport your goldenrod t-shirts (or even better, your Battlesows jersey).



FILMFEST

Classes are over and finals are fast approaching. How does your college make sure you're prepared for finals? That's easy: by playing movies for twenty-four consecutive hours. We play movies from all types of genres, from midnight to midnight. It's a great time to relax, unwind from studying, and watch one or two or ten movies with your family at Wiess. The experience is made even better by our legendary movie room, with countless couches, a state of the art projector, and blacked out windows for premium viewing experiences. Filmfest can be the perfect way to take a study break or to procrastinate—whichever you prefer.

SUMMIT

In early fall, every Wiessman is invited to Summit, a day-long retreat at the beach (or on a boat depending on what era of Wiess history we're in) to discuss issues at the college and devise plans for the year. Summit is an awesome chance to soak up the sun and play in the sand while bonding with your new Wiess friends and getting to know the upperclassmen. It is also a great way for freshmen to have a voice in matters at the college and, most importantly, a great time. Sign up early!



TABLETOP THEATRE

As you hopefully have gathered by this point, Wiess is a pretty impressive residential college. One of our most well-known contributions to campus culture is our Tabletop Theatre. Tabletop puts on plays that are well-done to say the least, but makes it incredibly easy for new students to get involved.

If you have a passion for performance, want to get to know other new students and upperclassmen better, or enjoy things that are awesome, audition to be part of a Freshman One-Acts. Auditions are in the early phases of fall semester and students are cast for several plays directed by Wiess upperclassmen. There is no necessary skill level to participate and the time commitment is minimal, but the performances on Families Weekend are always a sight to behold.

For those new students who don't really see themselves as actors, don't despair! Our productions wouldn't be half as magical without all the technical wizardry that goes on backstage. From the lighting and sound equipment to stage design and construction to costumes and props, much of what makes a Tabletop production run takes place entirely behind the scenes. No matter what your talents are, Tabletop will be happy to have you!

Besides the masterpieces of Freshman One-Acts, Tabletop also puts on a fall play and a spring musical. Every four years, Wiess has the honor of performing *Hello, Hamlet*, a musical written by a former Wiessman that is only performed once during each student's career. Luckily for you, this year is the year! Seniors at Wiess have been waiting their entire lives to be a part of *Hello, Hamlet* and you'll have the chance to get involved this spring. Don't pass up this literally once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

COLLEGE NIGHT

College Night is an event held by each residential college once per semester, typically on Fridays. They're characterized by fun all afternoon, a fancy dinner, and a night full of celebrations. Each College Night has its own new and exciting theme, which in recent years have ranged from Survivor, hip-hop (All Goldenrod Everything), holidays (Dreaming of a Wiess Christmas), and flags (Team Flag Wiess, a theme so popular that you may see Team Flag Wiess as its own event). It's one of the highlights of the semester, so stay tuned for a theme announcement!



WIESS DAY

While every residential college can celebrate with a College Night, only Wiess has Wiess Day. This is a relatively new tradition, originating in the spring of 2008. This day of celebration centers around the fact that we're from Wiess and Wiess is great. Wiess Day is planned by the Social Vice Presidents, so most of the activities are up to their discretion, but past years' have included a slip-n-slide, an ice cream truck, and a petting zoo (complete with goats and a very small horse). Nobody knows what Wiess Day will hold, but it will surely be a day to remember.

NIGHT OF DECADENCE (NOD)

Rice public parties strive to be two things: safe and awesome. Wiess' public party excels at both. NOD is a party held on the weekend closest to Halloween each year. Attendance is the highest of any public party (think in the ballpark of 1400 Rice students) and so is the security force (think in the ballpark of 200 students). When you combine these, you get a party so successful that it once ranked on Playboy's Top

10 College Parties in America. NOD is no longer quite as rambunctious, but you should still be excited for your first experience this October.

NOD is a huge production and there are several important ways to get involved. Every year, Wiess students go to great lengths to decorate the Acabowl and Commons to create the unique atmosphere that makes NOD what it is. It can't be done without your help, so keep your eyes open for emails from the Socials soliciting decoration assistance. If art isn't really your thing, volunteering to be part of our legendary security force is a great way to make friends and experience your first NOD.

PUMPKIN CAROLING

Been wondering what to do on Halloween now that you're too old for Trick-or-Treating? Wiess has the answer: Pumpkin Caroling. Every Halloween, Wiess elects a College Idiot, who wins the honor of rallying the college with an inspirational speech and serving as the Great Pumpkin. Then, with candles, song lyrics, and tasty fall treats in hand, we parade around campus singing caroling melodies with modified lyrics. The entire event is magnificent, but it gets even better when we visit the library.

JAZZ NIGHT

Whether you like or have never listened to jazz, you'll love Jazz Night! In late April, Wiess invites professional and undergraduate jazz musicians to perform in the Commons. It's a relaxing atmosphere, complete with classy wine and cheese, and the event is strategically placed at a time when classes and exams start to get stressful. Also, a former Wiessman plays in the band, so make sure to stop by!

SALSA NIGHT

The other event planned by our Cultural Vice Presidents is even hotter than Jazz Night. Each fall, Wiess hosts Salsa Night, a night of Latin dancing for the experienced, novice, and the rhythmically challenged. An hour of free lessons leads to a night full of dancing, food, and live salsa music!



THE O-WEEK TEAM

O-WEEK CREW

WHAT'S A HEAD FELLOW?

If you asked every student at Wiess what the Head Fellows do, you would probably get several different answers and most of them would be incomplete. Luckily, writing this book you're currently reading is one of the things that the Head Fellows do, so we'll give you the best answer we can! We've been working since January to make your O-Week and first year at Rice the best that they can possibly be. We take the lead in planning events during O-Week, placing you with your suite members, and preparing this book, among countless other things.

One of the best things about Rice is the considerable faith that administration places in students to set the culture and generally run things. We value that trust and take the responsibilities of our position very seriously. If there are any questions you have for us or any ways that you know we can help you, feel free to email us at wiessweek@gmail.com. We're so excited to meet you that any email will make us jump for joy!

One quick note—at other colleges, Head Fellows are called O-Week Coordinators and there are three of them instead of just two.

WHAT'S AN O-WEEK GROUP?

Your O-Week group will be the first set of friends you make at Rice. Each O-Week group is composed of 7–8 new students at Wiess from all around the world and across every academic discipline. Each group is matched with a **Fellow**, a **Co-Fellow**, an **Affiliate**, and some **Associates** (don't worry, we'll explain what all of these words mean soon!). Throughout O-Week you'll spend time with the entire class of Wiess new students in the various presentations and activities that we've planned for you, but your O-Week group will provide you with a smaller group who you can get to know on a more personal level before classes start. Luckily for you, your O-Week group will have a lasting bond that goes well beyond orientation. Your advisors are excited to meet you, so get ready!

WHAT'S A FELLOW?

Your Fellow is a current junior or senior at Wiess who has been selected to lead you in the transition into Wiess. They're so excited to meet you that they've volunteered to be back at Rice almost two weeks before classes start and they're such impressive people that they were chosen through a highly competitive process. During O-Week, your Fellows will be your all-in-one resource to everything new at Rice, from your first semester schedule to the nuances of Wiess traditions. If they don't know the answer to one of your questions, they'll know somebody who does. After O-Week ends and the real year begins, your Fellow will still be there for you! Feel free to come to them for help with anything throughout the year. One quick note—like Head Fellows, the term Fellows is used only at Wiess. At other colleges, Fellows are called advisors and there are two of them per O-Week group.

WHAT'S A CO-FELLOW?

Your Co-Fellow is a current Rice student who has been selected to lead you in the transition into Rice. Unlike your Fellow, your Co-Fellow is from a different residential college. Because they love Wiess so much, they applied to spend their O-Week with us and you. They can help show you the wonders of our campus outside of Wiess and help you learn a little bit about the cultures from the other colleges across campus. They may not be originally from Wiess, but they're just as excited about our O-Week as any of us. As you may have guessed, the term Co-Fellows is used only at Wiess. At other colleges, Co-Fellows are called co-advisors, but there's usually still only one per O-Week group.

WHAT'S AN AFFILIATE?

Affiliates are O-Week personnel who serve specific roles for the whole college to help you in your transition to Rice. Your O-Week group will have an affiliate paired to your group, but they'll primarily serve the entire new student body as a whole. You'll have a chance to meet all the affiliates during O-Week, so be sure to say hi! They're fantastic people who can help you with a variety of specialized information about Rice.



SHANNON CHENG
WIESS '16
KATY, TX
PSYCHOLOGY

RYAN DEAL
WIESS '16
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA
POLITICAL SCIENCE, SOCIOLOGY

HEAD FELLOWS

SHANNON If you're ever in need of life organization, a shoulder to cry on, or a listening ear, Shannon is the gal for you! Hailing from Katy, TX, this girl is a master of just about everything she puts her mind to—all the while gracefully riding the strugglebus along the way. Although she has countless strugglebus stories, she is honestly one of the most put-together people you will ever meet. Sure she might have so much going on that she's often forgetting things mid-conversation ("Oh shoot, I lost it" is one of her most common phrases), but she definitely knows how to get things done. One of the best things about Shannon is that no matter how busy she is, she'll always be happy to grab a meal just to catch up or be there for you when you need her most. Important things to know about Shannon: she's the queen of lists (like this one), she sometimes makes random animal sounds, she loves writing on whale post-it notes, and she can almost always be seen with her giraffe lunchbox (his name is Mac). Get ready, new students, because this brilliant, passionate, caring, and slightly ridiculous Head Fellow is going to make Wiess, O-Week, and your transition to college as amazing as she can.

—Michael Hart (Duncan '16)
and Tyler Woods (McMurtry '15)

RYAN If you look up Ryan Deal on the internet, you may be surprised at what you find. For instance, you do not find his plaque hanging in the sports Hall of Fame at First Colonial High School or his "award-winning" political science research posters he completed during his sophomore year, or even record of his long tenured managerial position at the Rice Telefund. Instead, you find his twitter profile, @Ryan0Deal, where you will learn much more than you ever cared to know about the man they call "Will Wallace." First and foremost, he is almost an unsigned rapper and his EP will allegedly drop as soon as his LSAT is finished. The aspiring Joshua Lyman was born in Hawaii but went to high school in Virginia, where he was a legendary track and field runner and debate team captain/champion. Sports has always been a big part of Ryan's life, and his favorite teams transcend traditional boundaries as the biggest Jacksonville Jaguars fan to ever exist as well as a diehard Los Angeles Dodgers fan. You may catch him rolling around campus on his longboard or working a shift at The Pub, but no matter where you see him, you'll be happy you did, because Ryan Deal is the best thing on this campus, and he's about to give you the best O-Week ever!

—Steven Ajluni (Wiess '16)



ALEXIS BAILEY
WIESS '16
HOUSTON, TX
COGNITIVE SCI, POLICY STUDIES

BEN BALDAZO
HANSZEN '18
AUSTIN, TX
CHEMISTRY, ECONOMICS

AFFILIATE: MARGARET LIE (P. 4I)



FELLOWS

ALEXIS Alexis is a Houston native with plenty of sass, quirkiness, and intelligence to make any new student lucky to have her as a Fellow. After studying abroad in Denmark, traveling Europe, and “finding herself” she has come back to impart all of her worldly knowledge on you. As a Cognitive Sciences and Policy Studies major, this summer she will be doing resettlement casework with Syrian refugees, working to make her home of Houston a home for everyone. Alexis loves any and all food and will gladly help you solve your problems over a big bowl of pho soup, or personally deliver pizza to your room and spend hours with you helping you pick classes. When she’s not working at Willy’s Pub or killing it on the powderpuff field, you can find her at Coffeehouse finishing up readings for her next scuba class or helping other people procrastinate by being so much more interesting than the work they’re supposed to be doing. She’s seriously one-of-a-kind, and with her you’ll have an unforgettable O-Week!

—Nicolette Groen (Lovett '16)
and Isabel Scher (Wiess '16)

BEN It looks like you’re in for quite a treat: with the incredible Ben Baldazo as one of your Co-Fellows, you’re guaranteed to have an unforgettable O-Week! Hailing from the hip city of Austin, TX, Ben is finally bringing his witty jokes and Super Smash Bros finesse to Wiess (and he would love to challenge you to a match). If you swing by Hanszen, you might find this legend planning social events as a sophomore representative, or schooling the competition in pickup soccer. You know this Chemistry/Economics major means business when he’s announced that he plans to meet every Rice student in his class (and will sleep 7–8 hours a night until he does). The epitome of unconventional wisdom, Ben can not only do a standing backflip, but can also single-handedly bring all the milkshakes to the yard (boba fundraisers, of course). There’s no doubt about it; O-Week is going to the time of life with Ben Baldazo as your Co-Fellow!

—Isabel Alison (Duncan '18)
and Austin Cao (Hanszen '18)



ISABEL SCHER
WIESS '16
TENAFLY, NJ
POLITICAL SCIENCE

BO KIM
McMURTRY '16
HOUSTON, TX
ART HISTORY, ECONOMICS

AFFILIATE: DILO DUBE (P. 42)

ISABEL Fact: Beyonce originally wrote the lyrics to the song “Run the World” as “Who run the world, Isabel!” But Isabel, being so incredibly modest, asked ‘Yonce to change them to the less catchy “Who run the world, Girls!” You may be asking yourself, what makes Isabel so awesome? First of all, she is the most amazing dancer on planet earth. I mean seriously, that girl can move! When she’s not shimmying her way into your heart on the Rice Dance Team, she’s most likely doing one (or five) of the following: running OwlSpark (which she co-founded), helping to run a local start-up business, working at Accenture and Macmillan, kicking some serious butt in powderpuff as Wiess’s Quarterback, being a Rice Health Advisor, basically dominating everyone in all of her classes, and looking fly as she longboards to and from her gazillion activities. The thing I love most, though, about Isabel is her devotion to those around her. It’s no secret that she will always be there for you, no matter what. Her genuinely caring and outgoing personality is very hard to ignore... and who would even want to? I love Isabel Scher with all of my heart, and I know you will too! This Political Science major is all that and a package of Guayaki Yerba Mate... who will rule the world some day.

—Alexis Bailey (Wiess '16)

BO While he looks like your average hipster with his cardigans and v-necks, you’ll soon realize that Bo Kim is an original. This fashionable Economics and Art History major intimidates at first with how put-together he is, but once you get to know him, you’ll discover he’s a down-to-earth guy (as you bo-moan the first of what is sure to be many a-bo-horant puns). Ask him about his thoughts on Asian food or any Asian-American issue—we dare you. We guarantee he’s read about it, discussed it, and formed an educated opinion. But really, Bo’s great to talk to about nearly everything, from Maroon 5’s greatest hits to leadership theory. His thoughtful perspective will challenge the way that you think. When he’s not enjoying a flat white at Blacksmith or grabbing a meal in Chinatown, you’ll find Bo working at Brochstein or exploring a local art museum. Play your cards right to be invited along to these escapades and maybe even be treated to some of his homestatic cooking. To know Bo in your first few days on this campus is a privilege; he is truly a piece of unconventional wisdom.

—David Kim (Wiess '16),
Shannon Cheng (Wiess '16),
and Michelle Lo (Will Rice '16)



JINAL MEHTA
WIESS '16
HOUSTON, TX
CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENG.

MICHAEL HART
DUNCAN '16
AGOURA HILLS, CA
BIOENGINEERING

AFFILIATE: KAITLYN SWINNEY (P. 44)

JINAL Sure, Jinal may be the best, most compassionate person ever, manage an intense Civil Engineering lifestyle, and organize an annual conference for *Pride and Prejudice* aficionados (ok, she might be the only one there), but she's more than just a Wiessman—she's a Downton Abbey lover, and a legend. We would go so far as to call her a prophet. No, not a prophet in a biblical sense (she's Jain; she couldn't even hurt a fly if she wanted to). More a prophet in the best-person-ever way (have you ever known someone who still celebrates Shakespeare's birthday?). Some say that through her appreciation for all things Shakespeare, Jinal truly embodies the ideal Renaissance (wo)man. She sees people with curiosity, compassion, grace, and excitement, and she's encouraging a huge community of Harry Potter-loving muggles to do the same. What a gift to have this amazing superstar as your Fellow!

—Shannon Foreman (McMurtry '16)
and Cora McKenzie (Sid '16)

MICHAEL A self-proclaimed "hart breaker," Michael Hart has previously been referred to as Magic Mike and even Adonis. When asked what his best feature is, this former child model will (modestly) tell you that it's his face, but we disagree. Anyone who knows Michael will tell you that he is crazy dependable—if you ever want to talk, about anything and everything, he will be there for you. He's always down for coffee, or even better, food. Always food. With a metabolism faster than the speed of light, Michael is constantly hungry. When he's not scarfing down his sixth meal of the day, you'll find him taking classes at the Bioscience Research Collaborative, planning events for the Biomedical Engineering Society, or spending time with his friends at his second home in Wiess College. Michael has Co-Fellowed before, so you know you're in good hands. His dedication to his new students shows in how much they love him (and make fun of him), but all joking aside, Michael will be your go-to guy if you ever want to chat or grab a bite to eat. His response times are almost faster than his metabolism, so don't hesitate to send him a message! Get to know Michael Hart, because underneath his seemingly serious exterior, he's a goofball and a softie with one of the biggest "harts" out there.

—Maddy Bullard (Wiess '15)
and Shannon Cheng (Wiess '16)



MASON DAUMAS
WIESS '16
AUSTIN, TX
CHEMICAL & BIOMOLECULAR ENG.

HANNAH ABRAMS
DUNCAN '16
HOUSTON, TX
LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

AFFILIATE: **NIMI OYELEYE** (P. 4I)

MASON Standing at 6'2", don't be freaked out if Mason picks you up in one of his signature bear hugs; they're almost as famous as his latte art skills. He speaks *Lord of the Rings* quotes fluently, he knows all the Disney songs worth knowing, and can tell you anything—yes, anything—about coffee. He's seen all the episodes of *Avatar: the Last Airbender* and *The Legend of Korra* at least three times over, and if you're ever in need of a *Doctor Who* marathon, he's your man. Hailing from the wonderful and weird town of Austin, Mason brings to Rice his love of Tex-Mex and indie music, as well as a great deal of southern hospitality and charm. Don't let the French last name fool you; he's half Mexican and Paraguayan and speaks Spanish like a pro. Among his many, many talents are trumpet-playing and pie-baking, and he's a total whiz at all things chemistry-related. Did I mention he's the General Manager of Coffeehouse, the busiest privately-owned coffee shop in Houston? He's laid-back, but start a conversation on any of his passions and his enthusiasm shines like no other. Wherever Mason is, if you're there, it's gonna be awesome. He's the straight-up nicest guy you'll ever meet and if you're lucky enough to have him as a Fellow, he'll be one of the best friends you'll ever have.

—Vicky Comesañas (Wiess '16)

HANNAH Hannah "Twist" Abrams. She is the real deal, y'all. She is one of the most intelligent and quick-witted people you will have the pleasure of meeting. She's been all over the world and then some, but you will feel right at home when you're with her. Hannah is one of the most accepting, selfless, and loving people you will ever meet. She is a beloved counselor of Camp Kesem (you will no doubt hear more about this from her) and has been actively involved with the Jewish community, not only at Rice but while studying abroad in Cuba as well. Some more fun things to know about Hannah... Hannah is one of the few who can turn a frown into an outright laugh in a matter of seconds. She is a low-key, talented artist. She can bake major noms. Coffee is bae. Friends are forever. And she loves you already. This next year is going to be filled with a ton of "THAT'S MY NEW STUDENT!!" as she expresses her love and pride for all that you are and do. Maybe you're worried about coming to a new place and meeting new people. Valid concerns. But with Hannah as your Co-Fellow, trust me when I say there is nothing to worry about. This one's a keeper, and she will be by your side through it all. Congratulations on winning the Co-Fellow jackpot, and welcome to Rice.

—Stacey Yi (Duncan '16)



BRIAN WAHLIG
WIESS '17
DES MOINES, IA
BIOENGINEERING

MICHELLE LO
WILL RICE '16
SAN JOSE, CA
SOCIOLOGY

AFFILIATE: **IAN MELLOR-CRUMMEY (P. 45)**

BRIAN Hailing from Iowa, Brian, nineteen years old, soon to be twenty, believes Des Moines is the greatest city to reside. With eyes as green as the broccoli on his plate every dinner, he concentrates on schoolwork for his Bioengineering major, with hopes of becoming Dr. Wahlig later on in life. His knowledge isn't limited to just this however, since the genius can answer any question from any subject whether it be Organic Chemistry or dance moves from the latest Ariana Grande video. Outside of his classes, Brian not only stars on the Wiess Intramural Basketball team but also enjoys long-distance running, dancing aimlessly in front of mirrors, and long walks on the beach. With hair as curly as rotini pasta, mandible as mighty as the Crimson Chin, Brian makes sure he takes his 3,000 milligrams of supplements each night. In all honesty, Brian Daniel Wahlig will be the kind and loyal person one only dreams of meeting. This lean hunk of a Fellow is the epitome of a great role model and even better friend. Destined to change the world, Brian will be graduating in the spring of 2017 and moving on to even greater things, but his loyalty and devotion to Rice, the goldenrod of Wiess, and his O-Week group are surely unmatched. Prepare for an unbelievable O-Week experience!

—Marco Ruiz (Wiess '17)

MICHELLE Michelle "MoLo" Lo is proof that the best things come in small packages. Her short stature belies an insatiable appetite, a huge smile, and an even bigger heart. MoLo is famous around campus for her dancing abilities (ABBA wrote a hit song about her—you might've heard of "Dancing Queen") and her knowledge of the best restaurants and food in Houston, but what fewer people know is that she is probably one of the best one-on-one conversationalists you will ever meet. A conversation with Michelle is simultaneously engaging and challenging—hours will pass and you won't even know it. After talking to her, you're guaranteed to learn something new about yourself (and the world—you think we're joking, but we're not). When she isn't traveling the world or food-crawling around the city, you can find MoLo spending time with her house church, developing theories about how society works, or working towards her Master's of Global Affairs. Commonly referred to as a "ball of energy," she's constantly running around campus to and from her many meetings, events, and catch-up sessions—but rest assured, if you ever need some life advice or just someone who's a great listener, MoLo will be there for you (and she'll probably bring you some darn good snacks too).

—Bo Kim (McMurtry '16)
and Shannon Cheng (Wiess '16)



YASMIN KHALFE
WIESS '17
SUGAR LAND, TX
BIOCHEMISTRY AND CELL BIO.

ELLIOT GHORAYEB
HANSZEN '16
SUGAR LAND, TX
ECOLOGY & EVOLUTIONARY BIO.

AFFILIATE: RACHEL NGO (P. 40)

YASMIN Not many people get to be advised by the most popular girl at Rice, Yasmin Khalfe... So if you're reading this, consider yourself one of the lucky ones! Not only does Yasmin average around 200 likes on every post, even famous basketball players have slid into her DMs (not kidding: Shane Battier once personally messaged her good luck on exams!). Besides her many celebrity connections, Yasmin is extremely involved across campus. She balances her Biochemistry major and Pre-Med coursework with an insane number of extracurriculars, from dominating IM powderpuff and volleyball to working as an officer for Rice Pre-Medical Society. At Wiess, Yasmin serves on Cabinet as External Vice President and helps her fellow students as Head Peer Academic Advisor. No matter how busy she may be, Yasmin is always there for her friends. She is one of the most approachable, down-to-earth people you will ever meet, and it's impossible to not have fun around her. Her smile is incredibly contagious—seriously, you might want to bring a pair of sunglasses to O-Week so you aren't rendered sightless by her impossibly white teeth. All jokes aside, Yasmin is the kind of person everyone wishes they were friends with. Get ready for the best week of your life and the instant fame that will come from being in pictures with Yasmin. You are truly #blessed to have her as your Fellow!

—Ben Tour (Wiess '17)
and Sanjana Ranganathan (Wiess '17)

ELLIOT Welcome to the Elliot Ghorayeb experience. Though he comes from Sugar Land, TX, Elliot holds his Lebanese heritage as close to his heart as his rich blanket of chest hair. He will graduate with a major in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and a minor in Business, but he has the necessary firsthand experience to give you advice about a few of the wonderful majors at Rice, as well as the extensive Pre-Med requirements. He's a big fan of outdoor activities, but is also a great conversationalist on several topics, especially high-end cars (like *especially* high-end cars), large-scale entrepreneurial plans, and big philosophical ideas (some of which he even invented). If you don't feel like having any of these conversations in English, you're in luck because this fine gentleman is also a certified Arabic speaker and will jump at the chance to converse in Arabic with anybody who can even vaguely understand him (NOTE: Regardless of your ability to understand him, he will almost certainly try to converse with you in Arabic at some point). Though his room key and academic transcript say that he's from Hanszen, his heart and, more importantly, his signature tank tops confirm his true affinity for Wiess.

—Ryan Deal (Wiess '16)



YASH TARKUNDE
WIESS '17
SUGAR LAND, TX
CHEMISTRY

VERONICA RIGGS
HANSZEN '16
KELLER, TX
ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTIONARY BIO.

AFFILIATE: THOMAS CHEN (P. 42)

YASH More swagger than Kanye, more hustle than Jay-Z, and more compassion than Drake—Yash Tarkunde is everything you could dream of in a Fellow, and more! It's impossible to resist Yash's positive energy, relentless smile, impeccable fashion sense, and goofy humor. On any given day you'll catch him running around campus from the chemistry lab where he does mad science research (and occasionally gets the lab evacuated) to the Rec where he rules the basketball courts (because the only thing he loves more than bucket hats is getting buckets). Yash is very modest, but don't let it fool you—he is exceptionally smart and hardworking, balancing his rigorous Chemistry major/Pre-Med workload with his position as a PAA and Honor Council Representative, not to mention his time spent representing Wiess on the football field and basketball court. But no matter how busy Yash is, he will always find time to help you with anything you may need, and he's the best at providing encouragement and optimism. Just like his favorite rapper Drake, Yash will always "Take Care" of you, and although he may not turn you into a Yeezy fan, he will definitely turn you into a Yash fan. He's an incredibly giving and warmhearted person, and you are so lucky to have him as your Fellow! Get ready for the best week of your life!

—Sanjana Ranganathan (Wiess '17)

VERONICA Who is Veronica Riggs!!? Only the cutest Hanszenite you will ever meet! Affectionately known around Hanszen as "Ronnie," this butt-kicking President of the Rice Women's Rugby Club is a lean, mean, really sweet person who will bake you lots of sweet treats and sew you a piece of her awesome original clothing. (No seriously, go ask her to show you all of her cool DIY projects!) If that weren't enough for you, then let her capture a great photo of you; she is the Hanszen Historian after all! Otherwise, just catch her around for a tour of the zoo, (if you love animals as much as she does), or for a dance session to anything by CHVRCHES (one of her personal favorites). Feel free to approach her if you ever want to talk about nature, Netflix, or life in general!

—Maggie Edmunds (Hanszen '16)



BEN TOUR
WIESS '17
HOUSTON, TX
MATH. ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

MARCELA INTERIANO
LOVETT '17
HOUSTON, TX
CHEMICAL & BIOMOLECULAR ENG.

AFFILIATE: **BRIAN TIGHE (P. 44)**

BEN Legend has it that on August 18, 2013, the first Pre-Med undergrad to AP out of organic chemistry matriculated into Rice. This legendary student was THE Ben Tour. Ok, Ben didn't actually do that. But this is just one example of the crazy, hilariously entertaining stories you'll get to hear from Ben now that he is your Fellow. Even though he could easily be a hand model (he has really nice hands), Ben decided to pursue a future in business with his Math Econ major and Business minor. A frequent gym go-er and sports lover, Ben was once the starting quarterback of the football team (the Wiess freshman flag football team, that is). From his cowboy boots to his music playlist, Ben loves everything country. And when it comes to two-stepping, he will literally sweep you off your feet with his dance moves. As you'll soon know, Ben loves to joke around, and his table-smacking, head-banging laughter is absolutely contagious. Although Ben is a ball of endless energy and loves to have fun, he also is a great friend who will always be there for you to talk or just have a chill night hanging out. So as O-Week approaches, get ready for the best week of your life because you will soon see you are #blessed to have Ben as your Fellow!

-Yasmin Khalfe (Wiess '17)

MARCELA It'd be impossible to fit this fiery redhead's personality in this short bio, but we're going to give it a shot. Introducing Emma Marcela Interiano, but you can just call her Marcela. Hailing from Houston, Texas, Marcela knows all the local hangouts and is your go-to guide for Saturday night dinner spots. Her family is from El Salvador but her high school was French, so this home-girl is fluent in both Spanish and French. Even though Marcela is excited to wear that Wiess goldenrod, her home is at Lovett and it was there that she started her journey at Rice. Now entering her junior year, this Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering major will wow you with her knowledge of chemistry and then turn around and write one of the best papers you've ever read. She's on the reigning champion Lovett Powderpuff team and definitely knows how to play as hard as she works. This is reflected in her recent election to U-Court Vice-Chair. Marcela is one of the most caring and dependable people that you will meet during your time at Rice and we hope that you're as excited as she is for Wiess O-Week!

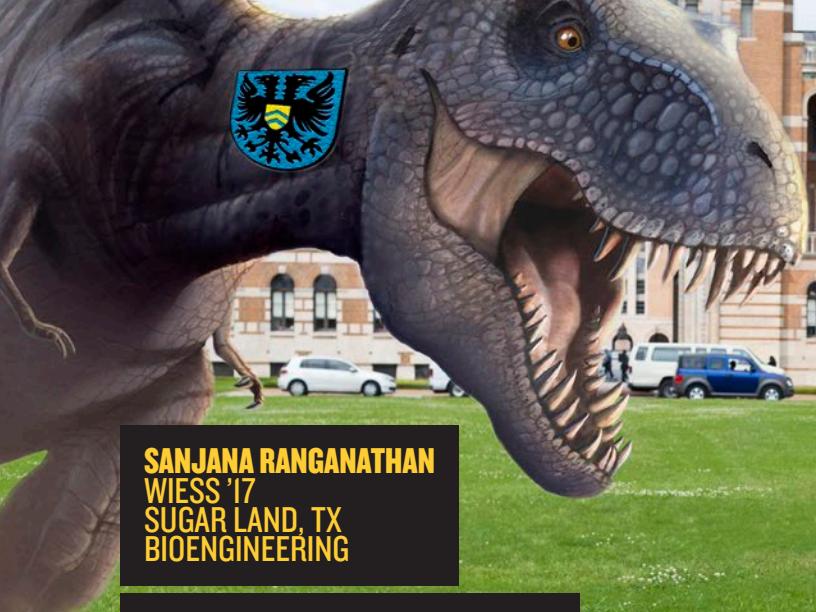
-Annabelle McIntire-Gavlick (Lovett '17)
and Darcy Curtis (Lovett '17)



SANJANA RANGANATHAN
WIESS '17
SUGAR LAND, TX
BIOENGINEERING

JEFFREY JOYCE
BAKER '17
SLIDELL, LA
CHEMICAL & BIOMOLECULAR ENG.

AFFILIATE: STEVEN AJLUNI (P. 43)



SANJANA If you're walking around campus and feel a small person whizz by you in a colorful blur, don't be scared; it's probably just your Fellow, Sanjana, roller-blading to class. If you happen to mention s'mores, however, you'll stop her dead in her tracks. Despite being sweeter than her favorite dessert, Sanjana is a force to be reckoned with. When she's not draining three-pointers on the basketball courts at the Rice Rec Center, she's probably churning out copious bioengineering reports or leading Student Association committee meetings. However, don't expect Sanjana to stay in one spot for too long. Her sense of adventure is unmatched and highly contagious. Her travels range far and wide—from the pristine halls of the Istanbul Ataturk Airport to the lively deserts of Lubbock, Texas. But watch out if you hop in the car with her; you might just find yourself having the time of your life. Don't forget to bring some music along for the ride, so you can experience her ridiculously amazing singing. One thing's for sure though: Sanjana's smile will make Wiess feel like home for you on move-in day. So bring your excitement (and maybe a cute dog if you really want to make your Fellow's day), because Sanjana is going to make your welcome to Rice unconventionally unforgettable.

—Yash Tarkunde (Wiess '17)
and Kendall Burks (Wiess '17)

JEFFREY Fierce. Strong. Relentless. Huggable. Adorable. Courageous. Intense. All of these attributes are those of... you guessed it, a bear. Jeffrey Joyce is an overgrown teddy bear. Standing at 6'2", when spotted, this specimen approaches without caution and proceeds to smother your head in his arms with affection. This goes without fail, leaving the victim with a sense of positive self-esteem, and the feeling of being loved. Upon appearance, the classification of this specimen, Jeff as we'll call him, is near unidentifiable. Is he Chinese? Brazilian? Irish? German? All four, but not really?? It's a classification that gets complex around the family-genus area, so we choose to just accept him as he is, as a whole. A Chemical and Biomolecular Engineer, night owl—academically and socially, savage smash bros player, avid Netflix surfer, and an all-around socialite, Jeff is always willing to drop everything and be there for you. Whether it be to sit down and talk about your problems to someone who will listen, or if you need someone to take you to the ER late at night and stay with you until 5AM, Jeff's your guy. So overall, he's 'aight' and you're lucky enough to have him as your Co-Fellow!!

—Samuel Soyebo (Baker '17)



PRIYANKA MEHTA
WIESS '16
SUGAR LAND, TX
PSYCHOLOGY

DAN ABRAHAM
MARTEL '16
SOUTH BRUNSWICK, NJ
ECONOMICS, COGNITIVE SCIENCES

AFFILIATE: TAY JACOBE (P. 43)

PRIYANKA Legend has it if you say the word "toast," Priyanka will appear and tell you the greatest joke of all time. This senior Psychology major is from Sugar Land, TX (named after her because she is just that sweet). When she isn't cracking groan-inducing-but-still-hilarious jokes, she's probably attempting to longboard around campus or serving as Cultural Rep on Cabinet. Priyanka is also an incredible singer and once won over THE Aaron Carter with her angelic voice. She will gladly tell you about it, but grab a seat because she is quite the storyteller. Though Priyanka is a total sweetheart, she is cold-blooded on the powderpuff field, where she plays a menacing outside linebacker. Priyanka is also a total genius; she conducts cutting-edge neuroscience research at Baylor College of Medicine. Literally. Ask her about the time she almost cut her finger off! Thankfully, this RHA is always armed with band-aids. She hopes to be a doctor someday, due to her overwhelming love for babies. If you are #blessed enough to have Prinks as your Fellow, start thanking your lucky stars now. She is the most caring person you will ever meet, and she'll do anything to make you smile (be warned—if it's a good joke, she'll brag about it for weeks). Get ready for an incredibly fun 4 years! Priyanka will be with you every step of the way.

—Mike Schubert (Hanszen '14)
and Yash Tarkunde (Wiess '17)

DAN His personality is so magnetic that he is unable to carry credit cards. His laugh is so contagious that it could make even the most emo person crack a smile. Well, whatever your criteria may be, get pumped for O-Week, because you are about to be advised by the one, the only, the legend, "Dirty" Dan Olickal Abraham, a handsome man with an enormous... personality. Pause for a second to revel in the fact that you were just assigned Dan as your O-Week Co-Fellow... This senior Jersey boy is too legit for Snookie. Try not to be intimidated by his exceeding handsomeness, sophistication, and generally spicy excellence. When he's not busy binging trashy reality shows or sassing any person he comes into contact with, you'll see him just hanging out and sharing crazy stories with everyone. On a serious note though, Dan is one of the most fun, friendly, laid-back, and awesome individuals at Rice University. If you are lucky enough to have this gift from above as one of your Fellows/friends, you are truly blessed. Heck if I had a time machine I'd go back and make myself a 2015 Wiess new student, just so I could be in Dan's O-Week group. Be prepared for the best week of your life; be prepared for a week filled with Dan Abraham. Highly recommended 10/10.

—Anand Lodha (Martel '15)



TOMMY NGUYEN
WIESS '17
KATY, TX
KINESIOLOGY

CASSY GIBSON
DUNCAN '17
SINTON, TX
ENGLISH

AFFILIATE: PERRY GOLDSTEIN (P. 41)

TOMMY Know someone who's up at 6AM to squeeze in a workout before his 8AM class? Look no further because you've already found him: if Tommy's not running the outer loop, he's probably two-stepping, singing along to the cheesiest country tunes you'll know. If you fall, embarrassing yourself at country line dancing, no worries because this future orthopedic doctor will be there to fix you up. Call yourself lucky, because you've got the best Fellow anyone could ask for. Tommy loves adventures—exploring Houston and its local foods and coffee shops. No matter what it is, you're bound to have a good time. Even when he was living off-campus this past year, he managed to convince everyone that he lived on-campus! He'll always be there for you, plus I guarantee there's not one day you haven't seen this guy and not laughed (whether that's at him or with him). Either way, this energetic, fun-filled guy is the ultimate guide to a best friend. The only problems he has are #hotpeopleproblems.

—Kathy Wei (Wiess '17)

CASSY If Cassy Gibson is your Co-Fellow, consider your life made. She's an English major originally from Sinton, Texas, but she now calls Duncan College her home. Not only can she translate Shakespearean plays into the type of English that hip, cool teenagers use but she can also tell you how to mix carboxylic acid with thionyl chloride to get an acid chloride. Oh yeah, did I forget to mention that she is also a Pre-Med? This multitalented (and multi-lingual) junior is a force to be reckoned with, not just in the classroom, but also at the gym where she can be found lifting to keep up her goddess-like physique. After living with her for two years, I have seen all her different sides, including her passion for tidiness, her eclectic taste in the arts, and her love of snoozing. But don't let her favorite pastime of sleeping fool you, she loves to let her half-Mexican side come out and become the life of the party. So strike up a conversation with Cassy, get to know her, and maybe you can learn to share her love of *Parks and Recreation*, *Fight Club*, and videos of cute animals.

—Victoria Mota (Duncan '17)



JOSH MARRS
WIESS '17
NORMAN, OK
SOCIOLOGY

MARIAH LAWHON
JONES '16
MINERAL WELLS, TX
PSYCHOLOGY

AFFILIATE: FERNANDO BARAJAS (P. 45)

JOSH Josh "Big Papi" Marrs: at an impressive 6'4", a weight that can be expressed in non-minute fractions of a metric ton, and a propensity for "tennis," he's the best introduction to Wiess, and Rice, that you could hope for. This pleasantly plump ideal of the male form gives hugs that lift your spirits like he lifts cold hard iron. Josh is quite the bastion of academic prowess; he's majoring in Sociology, is Pre-Med with a minor in Poverty, Justice, and Human Capabilities, and has had a brief foray into the realm of Bioengineering. He's campus champion (don't quote us) of ping pong due to his high school athletics career. As anyone from Wiess to McMurtry to Brown to McMurtry to Wiess will tell you, he's one of the friendliest people on campus. He's the baller shot caller from OKC. He likes sports, about which you should ask him because we never do. He's a good guy to have in your corner and a better guy to have in your O-Week group, since he'd much rather love people than fight them. Get super duper excited for the best four years of your life, led into the unknown by the one and only "Mr. Fantastic."

—Josh Kaye (Wiess '17)
and Greg Harper (Wiess '17)

MARIAH No one really knows where Mariah came from. Sure her birth certificate says Wichita Falls, Texas, but this senior Co-Fellow from Jones College is surely not of this Earth. Her bubbly laughter and infectious smile will make you feel instantly welcome at Rice. This laughter can be heard from all six corners of campus as Mariah is basically everywhere at once. One moment she's the adorable girl staring back at you from across Coffeehouse, and the next she's the fearsome powderpuff warrior who shows no mercy. This Psychology major, extracurriculars minor, is more than just a mere student; nay, she is a modern-day Renaissance Woman! Who is that girl who will drop everything when you need someone to talk to? Mariah. Who is that girl singing "Don't Stop Believing" at the top of her lungs? Mariah. She is extremely passionate about everything that she does from running the campus-wide senior events committee to fighting tooth and nail on the powderpuff field. Not to mention that she co-founded Camp Kesem Rice, a summer camp for kids affected by a parent's cancer. Though she may be ridiculously involved, she is the most dedicated and loyal girl you'll ever meet. This girl is as sweet and caring as they come, we only wish she could be our Co-Fellow too. With Marayray, you could not be in better hands!

—Trevor Eisenberg (Jones '16)
and Charlotte Larson (Jones '16)



PEER ACADEMIC ADVISORS

Peer Academic Advisors (always known as PAAs) are students who have been trained in numerous areas of academic life here at Rice. They serve as liaisons between students, faculty, and the Office of Academic Advising. Throughout the year, the PAAs coordinate events to inform students about scheduling, research opportunities, and other facets of academic life. During O-Week, your four O-Week PAAs will serve as your main resources to help you plan your first semester schedule.

RACHEL NGO

Sugar. Spice. And everything nice. These were the ingredients chosen to create the perfect little girl. But there was an EXTRA INGREDIENT that was accidentally added to the concoction...CHEMICAL X. Thus, RACHEL NGO WAS BORN! Using her ultra superpowers, Rachel has dedicated her life to being a beast at literally everything and defeating the forces of evil. When she's not riding around on her bike in her uniform skirt, you can spot the angel in her natural habitat, the Rec, powerlifting, doing the crazy 7-minute ab cycle, or beating someone in a sports competition. So don't be fooled by this sweet 5 ft. bundle of cuteness, because she'll probably

beat you at everything and anything. It's okay though, because her kindness makes up for that feeling of loss, and her smiles and hugs will warm your heart. For the guys out there looking to win her over, homemade food and Disney movies are the way to go. She may be little and young at heart, but her knowledge and determination goes beyond what words can describe. So count your lucky stars because Rachel is your PAA and she will be able to answer ALL of your questions in school and in life. Seriously. All of them.

*-Kathy Truong (Sid '15),
Steven Ajluni (Wiess '16),
and Cindy Nguyen (Wiess '18)*

MARGARET LIE

Margaret is
Always caring
Reaching out
Giving and sharing
Aiming to be the best
Reaching for nothing less
Everything she does
Tops the best of the best

Laughing with her
Is one a kind
Even when life is unkind

This Biochemistry Pre-Med sweetheart aspires to impact lives one day in an extraordinary way, but little does she know, she actually does that every day! This was short and sweet, just like Margz... Okay, she's not that short, but she is very sweet and having Margaret as your PAA will be such a treat!

—Brooke Johnson (Wiess '17)
and Amalya Lewinson (Wiess '17)

PERRY GOLDSTEIN

Few people in this world have mastered the “John Wall,” but when Perry “Perrito” Goldstein struts onto the dance floor, you better make room for his dance moves. Hailing from Atlanta, GA, his Southern charm will sweep you off your feet. A valued member of Rice’s club baseball team, Perry has a passion for sports that reflects in his daily life as a Sports Management major and Atlanta Hawks/Braves enthusiast. He never turns down an opportunity to throw around a football or to play water polo, so hit him up if you want to tone your beach bod! Though Perry loves to be active, he’s not afraid to slow down and enjoy the good parts of life, especially food. Eat with him and you’ll have time for multiple meals before he finishes his own. You’ll get great conversation in, though—he’s a fantastic listener with great stories to tell. He has a heart of gold(enrod) and is a master at helping others define their goals, so you’re lucky that he’s an O-Week PAA!

—Tay Jacob (Wiess '18)

NIMI OYELEYE

Who’s that tall girl with the fabulous hair and resonating tenor? It’s no other than Nimi. Call her by her full name, Tolunimi Awujoola Carol Oyeleye, and you’ll get extra brownie points. Call her by her initials, T.A.C.O., and you’ll get even more. She’s a jack of all trades: musical (she jams to *In the Heights* in the computer room), international (she’s lived in The Hague), and a dancer (she’s ripped the knees of her jeans from dancing to everyone’s favorite age-appropriate song “Gas Pedal”). Though she’s lived in the D.C. area for the past couple of years, Nimi is a Houston native. Being a Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering major certainly doesn’t diminish her talkativeness (her ΔG is < 0 , if you know what I mean). As your O-Week PAA, she’s equipped with the academic and non-academic knowledge you’ll need to kickstart your year. Go to her for advice picking your classes. Or go to her if you want to learn how to hula hoop, since that’s an integral part of being a college student (she’ll provide the hula hoop *and* the lessons). Nimi’s always willing to talk to you—as a PAA, a fellow Wiessman, and a friend.

—Michelle Zhao (Wiess '18)



DIVERSITY FACILITATORS

Diversity Facilitators (frequently known as DFs) are students who will help you transition into our incredibly diverse campus. Rice's demographics offer an incredible opportunity to interact with students from a huge range of cultures and backgrounds. We strive to uphold an environment that allows us to facilitate healthy and open discussions on any issues related to diversity in the student body. The demographics of Rice are probably different than those of your previous school, so our wonderful Diversity Facilitators are here to help start conversations and interactions that last far beyond O-Week.

DILO DUBE

Get ready, Wiess O-Week 2015. Dilo Dube (DIH-low DOO-bay) is about to rock your world. This rad robin is the Diversity Facilitator of the century. What does that even mean? You should ask her yourself! You will be blown away by the sunshine that literally radiates from her smile, and the warmth and enthusiasm that comes with every word she speaks. She'll turn your world around with #realtalk and life insights beyond her years. When not changing lives and perspectives, this Sociology major lights up the Rice Dance Team and Rice African Student Association with her dazzling dance moves and spunk. Ask Dilo about her poetry. Or her brownie-hustling days. Or how she takes on social inequality one hard question at a time. Dilo is a shooting star, but don't worry about being starstruck! She is always down for quality conversations or just chillin' and Netflixin'. So get excited, because having this girl in your life (and O-Week group) is going to make for a kick-butt O-Week!

-Chloe Nguyen (Wiess '15)



THOMAS CHEN

Now, this is a story all about how your lives will get turned upside down. Sit right down, and I'll tell you how Thomas became the prince of H-town. But actually though, this California boy probably knows Houston better than the locals. When you first meet Thomas, you'll probably see an awkward, somewhat quiet hipster dude that wears a beanie hat all the time. But you'll quickly learn that he's incredibly caring, funny, and absolutely amazing. Thomas brings Claremont to Houston with his laid-back attitude and love of all things music. This KTRU DJ, Rice Health Advisor, and English/Biochemistry double major will go out of his way to help you with whatever you need! Although sometimes he has trouble staying awake (basically all of the time) Thomas has that perfect amount of wit and sass that will make O-Week a blast. When he isn't the first person liking all your comments and pictures on Facebook, you can find him watching basketball while simultaneously dominating a game of online Tetris (yeah, it's a weird combination). As a proud follower of Yeezus, Thomas strongly believes that once you're in his clique, ain't nobody messin' with you. So, you'll pull up to Wiess and yell to your parents, "Yo pops smell ya later." You'll look at Wiess thinking O-Week is finally around! And you'll be welcomed by Thomas, the fresh prince of H-town.

*-Anjali Kumar (Lovett '16)
and Divya Naik (Lovett '16)*

RICE HEALTH ADVISOR

Rice Health Advisors (always known as RHAs) are fellow students who are trained to give mental and psychological support to peers, along with aid for minor physical problems. Throughout the year, RHAs are available as resources to talk to you about any wellness concerns and act as liaisons between the Wellness Center and the Rice Counseling Center. They also have handy kits that contain all the tools necessary for minor first aid and medication. During O-Week, your O-Week RHA will help start conversations about wellness and inform you about the resources available to you at Rice.

STEVEN AJLUNI

Steven "Tuna" Ajluni will one day be the world's greatest doctor. Or technology mogul. Or golf dad. For now, he's your O-Week RHA, and you couldn't have asked for a better one. Make sure you snag him on move-in day, because Steven can singlehandedly carry a couch, fridge, and bed in one trip. Steven hails from the classy city of Detroit, where he parties with the likes of Big Sean and Steve Ballmer. When he's not over-preparing for a Neuro test, Steven can be found rapping better than Drake, coaching Wiess powderpuff, longboarding to Chipotle, or making passers-by swoon at the Rec. If you want to get on his good side, feign an interest in one of Detroit's sports teams or Elon Musk's latest endeavor. If you ever need a friend—or just some cold medicine—look no further than this guy.

—Brittney Brescia (Wiess '16)



GOPHERS

Gophers are Wiess sophomores who act as general assistants throughout O-Week. You probably won't see the incredible amount of hard work they do behind the scenes, from gathering supplies for all of our events to washing your O-Week shirts each night. When you do get to see them, they can be excellent resources to ask about what your first year at Wiess might be like (their O-Week was only a year ago!).

TAY JACOBE

What could possibly be the source of that harmonious voice when, in conjunction with my below-average voice, suddenly makes me sound like a mediocre singer? Could it be the voice of an angel? Or Celine Dion? Oh, whoops, it's your Gopher, Tay! Born and raised in Sykesville, MD, Tay has the ability to harmonize with just about anything, which shouldn't be much of a surprise to anyone who knows that she was the lead singer of the world-renowned band Crossfire. Commonly referred to as "Tay Bull," "Tay Tertot," and most prominently "Mom," Tay is more than just a special voice. When she's not jumping on trampolines, running killer distances, or throwing NFL-level spirals, she's knitting beanies, baking cookies, and being a great conversationalist. But don't let her kindness, resting worried face, or allergies to just about everything (keep her away from peanuts!) fool you. When the clock strikes 11PM, expect Tay to talk nonstop about her love for fried rice as she heads off to bed. The worst part about Tay's tendency to go to bed at an early hour is that the second she leaves the party, she takes the fun with her, and you'll probably want to go to bed as well. Nevertheless, this is a testament to how valuable every moment with this amazing goofball is, because she's truly the coolest of people you'll ever meet!

—Richard Zhang (Wiess '18)

BRIAN TIGHE

Brian Tighe (pronounced TIE) is truly a shooting star. Coming from the faraway land of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this fine gentleman has the full package. Though pursuing a degree in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, he manages to balance his time to accommodate all his other activities. Challenge this smart cookie to a game of trivia at your own risk—the extent of Brian's boundless knowledge is not limited to the field of chemical engineering. His unparalleled intelligence may seem overwhelming, but as a year-long Wiess PAA, Brian will always be the first to hear any questions you may have. This desire to help extends beyond the boundaries of academia—this fearless “tighe”-ger also happens to be a lifeguard and will not think twice before leaping into a pool to save someone. In addition to these first-class qualities, Brian also possesses a fantastic sense of humor and his jokes will never fail to rub you the right way. When he is not busy helping others, saving lives, or cheering people up, you can find this fine specimen in his natural habitat: on his bed listening to his bumpin' rap playlist. There is nothing Brian is more excited about than O-Week. Y'all are so lucky to have this guy as your Gopher!

—Eugene Wang (Wiess '18)

KAITLYN SWINNEY

World famous amongst very specific, small circles of people, K-Swiss is not just a type of Korean cheese. An advocate of sibilance from Sugar Land, this sassy swimming sister brings all the sugar, spice, and all things that are naaaiiice. Double-majoring in Psychology and Political Science, she is a master of manipulation and embezzlement. Embezzlement of LOVE that is! #lawyered Known as the Ron Swanson of this fine generation, her one year at Rice has jaded her to become the epitome of the sassy emoji, often staring at homework with a look of pure judgment and contempt. “Fun” fact—because fun is a social construct—she is allergic to dogs but is such a bad gouda, she owns two anyway. She believes any dog under 50 pounds is a cat and that cats are pointless. Just remember, she’s a simple woman. So I wish you the best of luck, but just remember Kaitlyn believes luck to be a concept created by the weak to explain their failures. But real life, Kaitlyn is a hilarious, fun-loving Grown Woman (*cue Beyoncé) who can only be matched by the likes of her Justin Timberlake poster. Get ready for the time of your life TFW!

—Taylor Armstrong (Martel '16)



PHOTOGRAPHER



IAN MELLOR-CRUMMEY

Hi. This is Ian. He'll be around for all of O-Week snapping some sweet photos of you that will, four years later, make you both cringe and weep with joy at fond memories. With an impressive pedigree in FOTO (part of VADA, you'll catch on quick) and ESCI, his diverse background will contribute well to your O-Week team. A Houston native, he knows all the ins and outs of our impressive local road system. He's spent time abroad, surviving harrowing robbery in China, and at home, frequenting Houston's lesser-travelled neighborhoods all in the name of art. Son to Rice's own computer wizard Professor John D. Mellor-Crummey, he's one of the best programmers at Wiess (we're just assuming these things are hereditary, we can't necessarily substantiate that claim). He's an excellent cook, with work experience in less than 5 or more restaurants. He rocks the best friar tuck haircut in the biz. Last year, he was producer of Tabletop Theatre, one of Wiess's most traditional traditions. He's a 2nd degree black belt in the Hapkido style of Kong Shin Bup. We have no evidence to suggest that he cannot fly.

*—Josh Kaye (Wiess '17)
and Greg Harper (Wiess '17)*

VIDEOGRAPHER



FERNANDO BARAJAS

New students—ask yourself what kind of person you want documenting the greatest week on earth for you. Would you want someone out of this world? Someone admired universally? Wouldn't you want this man to be a star in his own right???

If you answered "yes" to any of the following—get excited, because the space-loving man fondly known as "Fern" is a videographer with talent of cosmic proportions. Fernando is a rising senior Mechanical Engineering major with a future brighter than a supernova. When he isn't throwing down Fluid Dynamics problem sets, he might instead be training in the Air Force ROTC program on his epic quest to become a pilot. Please don't be intimidated by his badass Air Force uniform and relentless onslaught of science-related YouTube videos, because once you get past his sarcasm, you will meet a guy willing to talk to you about any and every topic you can imagine.

NGC 1624-2 might be the most recently discovered star, but you are soon to discover another named Fernando Barajas!

—Brady Buescher (Wiess '16)

ASSOCIATES



Our Associates are faculty, staff, and community members who are a vital part of Wiess. They're committed to engaging, mentoring, and serving as a resource for students, as well as each other.

Associates get involved in a wide variety of ways, ranging from casual meals, sporting events, and social gatherings, to lectures, career panels, and theatrical performances—just to name a few, all with the goal of enriching intellectual, cultural, and social life at Wiess. There's no prescription for how Associates contribute to the college because each Associate brings a unique set of experiences and perspectives.

During O-Week, you will be introduced to associates on at least two occasions, a lunch in the college and a dinner off-campus, but these meetings are just an introduction to the program. During your time at Rice, you'll have many more opportunities to meet Associates, seek mentoring, share interests, and ask questions.

Associates are around on a regular basis, so if you see any of our wonderful Associates in the commons, or somewhere around campus, be sure to introduce yourself and take advantage of the opportunity. You never know when your connections with these professionals, both in and out of Rice, will help you in the days to come.





RICE 101

HISTORY OF RICE

Rice's motto of "Unconventional Wisdom" is perhaps rooted in its unconventional beginnings: it opened its doors as the William Marsh Rice Institute for the Advancement of Literature, Science, and Art right after its namesake, William Marsh Rice, was murdered by his lawyer, Albert Patrick. In order to inherit the vast fortune Rice had collected as a businessman in Massachusetts, Patrick conspired with Charlie Jones, Rice's valet. They poisoned Rice and forged documents to transfer his wealth and estates to their ownership. However, their crime was discovered when Rice's friend and attorney, Captain James A. Baker, ordered an autopsy and discovered traces of poison in Rice's body. Patrick and Jones were indicted for murder, and the trial continued for four years as evidence of forged checks and betrayal surfaced. The conclusion: a verdict in favor of Rice's original will, which stated that his money be used to create an institution for higher learning upon his death.

So then the search for The Rice Institute's first president began. The board of trustees named mathematician and astronomer Edgar Odell Lovett president in 1907—upon the recommendation of then president of Princeton University, Woodrow Wilson. For the next five years, Lovett traveled to seventy-eight universities across three continents to solicit ideas for The Rice Institute's mission. On September 23, 1912, exactly twelve years after William Marsh Rice's death, the doors to The Rice Institute were opened to a matriculating class of 48 men, 29 women, and 10 faculty members.



In 1916, Rice held its first commencement ceremony. The Honor System, which is still in effect today, was established by a vote of the student body that same year. In 1930, William Marsh Rice was finally immortalized when his memorial statue (lovingly referred to as "Willy's Statue") was constructed in the Academic Quad. Rice went on to become recognized in not only academics, but also athletics, when the university won the Southwest Conference Championship in 1949 and the Cotton Bowl in 1950. This led to the creation of the Rice Stadium, which is still famous for being where President John F. Kennedy proclaimed that the U.S. would "become the world's leading space-faring nation."

The residential college system began in 1957 when Baker, Will Rice, Hanszen, and Wiess were established. Jones opened in the same year as the first women's dorm, followed by Brown in 1965. The Rice Institute, whose name was legally changed to William Marsh Rice University in 1960, began admitting non-white students after 1966. Soon after, Lovett and Sid Richardson were established in 1968 and 1971. Martel, McMurtry, and Duncan opened in the 2000s, completing the set of eleven colleges that make up Rice's residential college system today. And finally, in August 2015, the next great matriculating class will start their journey at Rice University to continue our outstanding traditions of excellence and honor.

RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

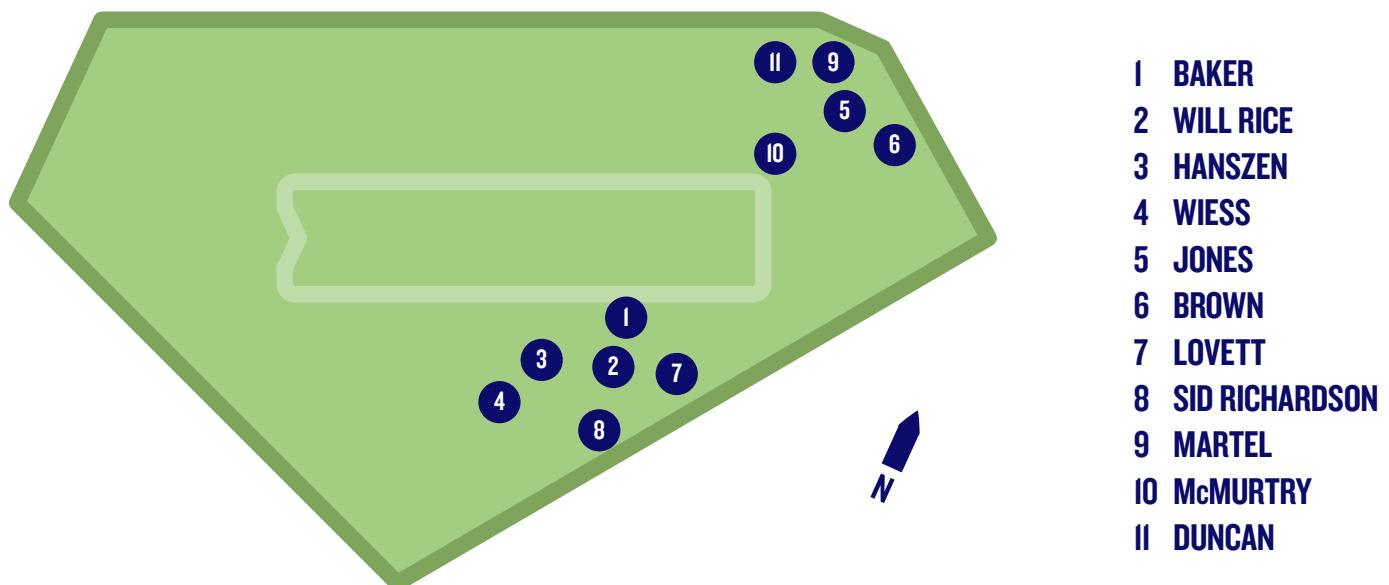
At Rice, we don't live in dorms! We live in residential colleges. The residential college system is one of Rice's most defining and unique features, and it creates a sense of community the moment you step on campus. Rice has no Greek life; instead, every undergraduate student is randomly sorted into one of the 11 residential colleges. You stay affiliated with your college for all your time at Rice, whether you live on- or off-campus. There are five colleges on the north side of campus (Brown, Jones, Martel, Duncan, McMurtry) and six colleges on the south side (Lovett, Baker, Will Rice, Hanszen, Sid Richardson, Wiess).

Random assignment gives each college community a diverse group of students. Your roommate and neighbors are likely to have different majors, hometowns, and interests from you. However, you will all be united by the community of your residential college, and this is a very strong bond.

Your college is much more than just where you live and sleep. It's also where you eat, study, hang out, and bond with the community. Each college has countless programs and activities to help everyone get involved, promoting college spirit and pride. In addition, they each have their own student government, which is a great way to have your thoughts and ideas be heard.

Included in your new family is the adult team, consisting of the Masters, Resident Associates (RAs), and College Coordinator. A Master is a faculty member who lives with his or her family in a house adjacent to the college. At Rice, RAs are faculty or staff members, not other students like at other schools. The Masters and RAs are always available to help advise you in all aspects of your life, in anything you need. They're around at meals, college government meetings, and other activities that take place at the college. The College Coordinator is typically only around during the day, but he or she is also a great resource for life chats, as well as for all of your mailing and office needs.

The college system is a unique part of Rice and creates an inclusive community for every student. Each college has its own history and traditions, but regardless of which one you're placed into, you'll find a home there. Over time, you'll also make connections with people at the other colleges, and these cross-college bonds are another fantastic aspect of Rice life. While your college is obviously the best, the other ten have great things to offer and you all share the Rice experience, pride, and spirit. Get to know your new home and community, but don't forget about all of the other wonderful people across campus!



THE OTHER COLLEGES

Wiess will always be your home, but during your time at Rice you'll probably find yourself spending time at the other residential colleges too. Here are quick descriptions of the other ten, each written by a member of that college (which should explain why they're made to sound awesome—feel free to ask around for further opinions). The eleven colleges are usually listed in founding order, which is how they're presented here. Wiess is fourth and would be right before Jones if included here. Ask our Co-Fellows for more details about their colleges' cultures, quirks, and traditions—they'd be happy to share with you!

BAKER



Baker College is the first residential college in founding order, alphabetical order, and classiness. Rice University would not exist had their namesake, Captain James A. Baker, not solved William Marsh Rice's murder mystery to ensure his savings went towards the Rice Institute. Known for their refined palate (Baker Kitchen always has fresh pastries at breakfast), rich traditions (Baker 13, BakerShake, need we say more?), and all-around great people, Baker is definitely an amazing place to make friends. While at Rice, you will invariably dine in their commons (the closest building Rice has to Hogwarts' Grand Hall), which is bustling at all hours of the day. Bakerites are easily recognizable in their bold red attire; don't be afraid to approach them and strike up a conversation. As the college from hell, they pride themselves in not taking competitions too seriously and always having a darn good time. If you take anything away from this short history of Baker, let it be this: Baker Comes First, always.

WILL RICE



Will Rice College is the "College of Gods and Goddesses." As the second college founded at Rice University, Will Rice is full of tradition and has a long history of success. Shining with myth, power, and value, Will Ricers bleed rust and gold. Aside from an incredible amount of intelligence, they have one thing on their minds: winning. They like to think of winning as their religion and Beer Bike as their Christmas, and let's just say, they are very faithful. As the only college to have ever swept Beer Bike (not only once, but FIVE times), they take pride in the hard work that they put into being, as Will Ricers say, the best college on campus. With a reputation of domination, it seems that everyone likes to hate on them—it's okay, haters gonna hate. However, don't be intimidated by their competitiveness and tradition of excellence. At their core, they're a friendly college with awesome people. So go hang out in their quad and lay in their hammock, they love the company!

HANSZEN



Hanszen College is the third of the four original residential colleges and is lovingly known as "the Family College." They say third is the one with the treasure chest, but what Hanszenites really treasure is the family they have throughout their years at Rice. They take pride in their strong sense of community and are recognized for being very welcoming to others. Their community is based on the "Hanszen Heart," where every Hanszenite looks out for each other—from helping to lift them up when they are down to celebrating with them when they are successful. Hanszen's mascot is the Guardian, a metal statue made over twenty years ago that stands triumphantly in the Hanszen quad and looks over the college. Hanszen also has a great history, as both Coffeehouse and KTRU were founded within its walls. But Hanszen is not a place to just stick to tradition and history; they're looking forward as well. Hanszenites love to meet new people and welcome them into the family, so come on by!

JONES

If you ever find yourself on the North Side of campus, come pay a visit to Jones—the most spirited and victorious residential college. Jonesians consider themselves winners through and through. In fact, they've never lost any competition they've ever entered, and you can always count on hearing them cheer "Jones Wins Again!" One of the best times to see their men and women in their natural habitat is on Beer Bike. They train all year for this one-day event! Their hard work pays off though; last year, they won Beer Bike, bringing glory back to the halls of Jones. While Jones may be an incredibly competitive and tight-knit community, never fear! Jonesians are some of the most welcoming and fun people on campus. Definitely pay Jones a visit to get a taste of their unique floor culture and awesome traditions. JIBA!

BROWN

Brown. They're the friendliest place on campus. They always end up being everyone's second favorite college, because they all get along and are really open to having other people around. Sure, their facilities might be considered "poorly maintained," but they make up for it with spirit and all around niceness! Unofficially known as the Gryffindor of Rice, they pride themselves on their traditions. From their valiant efforts during Brown Defense to the toga-themed Bacchanalia, the Brown community is extremely tight-knit and caring. Brown is the furthest college North—literally nothing is close to them, other than Huff House, the Health Center, and a Metro Rail stop. They're fine with that though, because that means they get to see and talk to more people on their way to class. So make the trek over to Brown; they're always ready to welcome you with open arms!

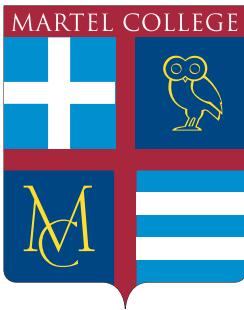
LOVETT

Named after Rice's first president, Edgar Odell Lovett College is truly a wonderful place. Perhaps most famous for their toaster-like building, Lovett is defined not by aesthetic appeal but by a strong sense of tradition and community. Lovett was built in 1968 in response to a high point in campus activism and protests. Their rooms may be minimalistic, but that simply allows them to work in the commons together more often. Many Lovetteers can be found working into the early hours of the morning on most weeknights, creating a tight-knit, supportive community that welcomes anyone who wants to join them. They've won the President's Cup for the past three years and always have supportive fans at their games—especially when they play against Will Rice. Stop by and say hi to one of the most friendly, inclusive, and attractive (don't believe what you hear; they really do have natural lighting) colleges on campus!

SID RICHARDSON

When people ask Sidizens how the weather is up there, we tell them. Why? Because Sid is 14 stories in the air, and it's awesome. How awesome? So awesome that Sid was dedicated by a president. That's right, LBJ gave the dedication speech for Sid. Where's that music you hear blasting all around campus on Fridays around 3 PM coming from? Radio Free Sid. What's with all the people painted black running around campus? Sid Orc Raid. Who hosts the best party featuring a live band and the greatest era for rock and roll (the '80s)? Still Sid. But Sid has a soft spot too, hosting such events as the Night of Innocence, the biggest Disney-movie pajama-party of the year. And they have strawberries. All The. Time. So head on over to the Tower of Power and say hello; they'd love to have you.

MARTEL



Though many like to contest that Martel is not a college, Martelians don't have to work very hard to convince them that Martel is indeed one of the best colleges around. They are known for their friendly and welcoming nature, which makes for an amazing community of people who love each other like family. Martel is the only Greek college at Rice and the only college with its own sallyport. Founded in 2002, you would think it has less tradition and history, but Martelians relish the traditions that have been building these past few years and welcome the opportunity to create new ones. Be sure to friend some awesome Martelians and get invited to the cool events they have, like Greek Week, Holiday Party, and Oktoberfest. They throw the very first and last public parties of the academic year, Don't Mess With Texas and Beach Party, but there's always sure to be something going on at Martel. So feel free to stop by and hang out because Martel is always open.

McMURTRY



What's purple, silver, and awesome all over? The tenth residential college, McMurtry! While only six years old, McMurtry College has been bursting with creativity and has established many traditions like McSkate for wintertime bonding, McTubing for summer fun, and Friday in the Quad (also known as FIT-Q) for weekly Friday relaxation. McMurtry is a tight-knit community that works hard and plays harder. When the conch shell is sounded and a loud "MUUUURT" is heard, you'll know they're nearby! On closer inspection, you might spot a kilt or two since they love to show off their Scottish heritage and may even play bagpipes for fancier occasions. On Beer Bike morning, you're bound to see McMurtry students in banana costumes because McMurtry Beer Bike is so amazing it's *bananas*. You might find Murts and their traditions quite foreign, but don't worry, McMurtry embodies Rice's diversity and friendliness. They'll probably invite you to some Scottish dancing or maybe even challenge you to a game of ping-pong or pool, so get ready to experience McMurtry!

DUNCAN



Duncan was named for their newly started legacy: All they've DUN shows that they CAN. (Just kidding, they were actually named for Charles and Anne Duncan!) Despite having only their third full class of Duncaroos graduate this past year, their college is famous for the ideas and innovation that make their community and culture strong. They throw birthday celebrators in their pool (called the Dunc Tank) and a party called Sensation in the spring, while also playing capture-the-flag with Nerf Guns inside their building. Duncan is perhaps best embodied by their motto: "*Somos equipo, somos familia,*" which means "We are a team, we are a family." The catchphrase embodies that Duncaroos work together, live together, and learn to support each other in their efforts as students and as people. Though they might confuse you by chanting that the floor is lava or holding their hands up to the sun god, any Rice student is always welcome to be a part of their team and family.

ADMINISTRATION



PRESIDENT

President Leebron left the deanship of the Columbia University School of Law to become the seventh president of Rice University on July 1, 2004. He is currently leading Rice through a period of growth and renewal based on the ten-point Vision for the Second Century he launched during his first three years in office.

Leebron has emphasized building Rice's international impact with active outreach to Asia and Latin America. He has also strengthened the university's local presence with multiple programs that connect students and faculty with Houston residents and neighborhoods, the Museum District and downtown, and its consular corps. Leebron has welcomed to Rice the Dalai Lama, former President Bill Clinton, former Indian President Abdul Kalam, a delegation of Chinese educational leaders on only the third U.S. trip of its kind, former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, and hundreds of other global political and academic leaders.



DEAN OF UNDERGRADUATES

Dean Hutchinson, also known as Dean Hutch, has been a Professor of Chemistry at Rice since 1983. He has been involved in student life at Rice since 1994, when he and his wife became Masters of Wiess College. After seven years at Wiess, they then served as Masters of Brown College from 2003 to 2008. Dean Hutch has also served as Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Academic Advising, and helped found Leadership Rice in 1996. He is a strong advocate for the Student Association and a big fan of the Owls student-athletes, college theatre, and Shepherd School musicians. You can often find him at lunch or dinner in one of the colleges.

Dean Hutch was the 2007 recipient of the George R. Brown Certificate of Highest Merit for Teaching Excellence, and the recipient of the Student Association Mentor Recognition Award in both 2000 and 2011. Fun facts: In his spare time, Dean Hutch likes to read about politics, play folk guitar, and hike in the Colorado mountains. His favorite rock group was Cream, and his favorite singer-songwriters are Bruce Springsteen and Angie Stevens. He has seen every episode of *The Simpsons* since the very first one in 1989.

THE HONOR SYSTEM

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received any unauthorized aid on this (exam, quiz, paper, etc.)."

Established in 1916 by students, the Honor System is a hallmark of the Rice academic experience. The Honor Code and Honor Council form the center of this important tradition by ensuring the academic integrity of all coursework completed at Rice. In a nutshell, don't be academically dishonest or tolerate those who are.

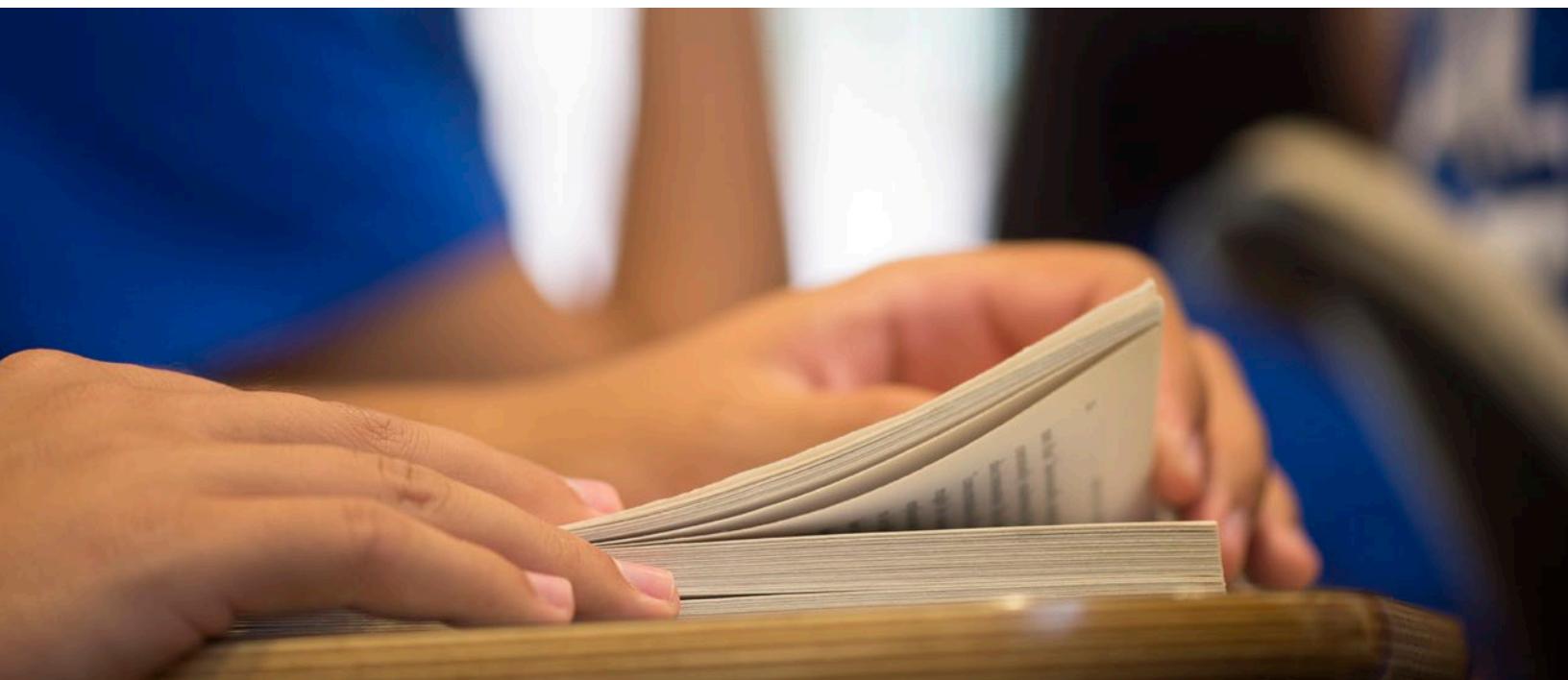
The Honor Code governs student expectations related to issues of plagiarism and cheating. The Honor Council, composed of undergraduates and graduate students elected by their peers, investigates and deliberates accusations of academic dishonesty. Together, they maintain trust and integrity. Many professors do not proctor exams and will sometimes give take-home tests. The Honor Pledge, written on every exam, quiz, and pledged homework assignment reminds everyone of this trust and integrity.

The Honor System requires active participation by all members of the Rice community. Faculty members, graders, TAs, and especially students, all have the responsibility to abide by the Honor Code and report violations to the Honor Council. For more information, visit honor.rice.edu; if you have any further questions, contact Wiess' Honor Council Rep (Yash Tarkunde, yash@rice.edu).

UNIVERSITY COURT

Rice seeks to encourage an environment in which students are considered adults and responsible for their own actions. Therefore, we're expected to uphold the rules in the Student Code of Conduct without tyrannical enforcement and monitoring. Even if you haven't taken the time to read the Code of Conduct yet, you are still held accountable for the guidelines listed—most of which just involve using common sense.

When violations of the code do occur, University Court (U-Court) handles the situation. U-Court is a student-run organization that helps Student Judicial Programs enforce Rice policies and regulations. U-Court believes that penalties should be flexible and innovative and that punishment should be more than punitive, benefitting both the student and the Rice community. For more information, visit sjp.rice.edu/ucourt; if you have any further questions, contact Wiess' U-Court Rep (Malvika Govil, mg55@rice.edu).



THE ALCOHOL POLICY

The drinking age in Texas is 21 years of age, and underage drinking is illegal on campus. Rice has a “wet campus,” however, which means that alcohol is not banned outright. Texas law and the Rice alcohol policy govern the use of alcohol on campus, and you can find the Rice policy online at students.rice.edu/students/Alcohol_Policy.asp. The policy stresses respect for the law, respect for our community as a whole, and safe, responsible behavior toward alcohol.

Rice’s community is very accepting whether you choose to drink or not. Many students don’t drink and still participate in all facets of social life at Rice. Whether you take a cup of Sprite to a party or sit down to a game of Settlers of Catan with a beer, everyone will respect your choice.

Whether or not you plan on drinking during your time at Rice, we’re all part of the same community and we look out for each other. Student resources like Caregivers and the Chief Justice are always on call to help, and in a medical emergency RUPD and Rice EMS are always available. Remember that RUPD and Rice EMS are here to keep us safe, not get us in trouble. Rice has an amnesty policy that protects students from prosecution if they or their friend need help from RUPD/Rice EMS, even if the situation involves underage drinking. The important thing is to call these resources if someone needs help.

You will become more familiar with the details of Rice’s alcohol policy during O-Week. One of the key points is that while we do have a wet campus, the policy nevertheless contains a hard alcohol

ban for students under 21 years of age. The term “hard alcohol” applies to all alcohol and alcohol-containing beverages except beer, wine, champagne, and pre-made alcoholic drinks not made from distilled spirits. Another important policy is that O-Week is completely dry, so that everyone can get the most out of all the various activities and events planned.

It is important to follow these regulations, and you will have the opportunity to learn the ins and outs of our alcohol policy during and after O-Week. Always feel free to reach out to your Fellows or Chief Justice if you have any questions!



RICE PRIDE

RICE FIGHT SONG

Fight for Rice, Rice fight on, loyal sons arise.
The Blue and Gray for Rice today, comes breaking
through skies.
Fight, fight, fight!
Stand and cheer, Vict'ry's near, Sammy leads the
way.
Onward go! To crush the foe, we'll fight for Blue and
Gray.

(Words and music by Louis Gerard '40)

RICE CHEER

Rice fight never die
Blue gray in the sky
Stand, cheer, vict'ry's near
Go go gooooooo Rice!

ALMA MATER: RICE'S HONOR

All for Rice's Honor, we will fight on.
We will be fighting when this day is done.
And when the dawn comes breaking,
We'll be fighting on, Rice, for the Gray and Blue.
We will be loyal, to Rice be true.
(To the tune of "Our Director March," written by
Frederick E. Bigelow.
Lyrics written by Ben H. Mitchell '24 in 1922.)

MASCOT: SAMMY THE OWL

Sammy's story begins way back when the Rice Institute was founded in 1912. That first year, the Rice intercollegiate teams chose the owl as their mascot. In 1917, when students from football rival Texas A&M kidnapped the owl (at that time a canvas and fiberglass incarnation), Rice students pooled their resources and hired a private detective to go to College Station to find the missing mascot. When the detective, having recovered the owl, sent a coded telegram to Houston that read, "Sammy is fairly well and would like to see his parents at eleven o'clock," the Rice mascot had a name.

Sammy has gone through many forms since his canvas and fiberglass days. At one point, live great horned owls were present at university sporting events. Today, Rice is represented by valiant students who don a fiercely majestic owl suit. Sammy's suit itself has changed several times, and his current three-year-old incarnation has traveled to Dallas, Memphis, and Hawaii with the Rice football team for bowl games. He enjoys dancing, signing autographs, and the occasional vicious mascot fight. Look for him at every football, men's basketball, and women's basketball game; he's happy to be in your next profile picture!





MATRICULATION

Before your first night at Rice ends, you'll be treated to one of Rice's most memorable events—matriculation. The spectacle begins with a formal dinner at Wiess, during which you'll take lots of pictures as an O-Week group. You'll then receive your official welcome into the Rice community, featuring a speech by President David Leebron, words of wisdom from a specially selected faculty member, and a walk to the Academic Quad through the Sallyport in Lovett Hall. This ceremony is a celebration of the journey that led you to Rice and marks the beginning of the journey you'll have here. Superstition states that once you walk through the Sallyport, you can't exit it until Commencement or you'll never graduate. This probably isn't true, but you might not want to be the one to find out.

COMMENCEMENT

One day far off in the future (but not as far off as you might think), you'll be done with your academic coursework at Rice and will finally leave the campus that you've called home for so many years. Commencement brings your senior class together in a sea of black robes and flat hats to proceed fearlessly into the world outside of Rice. The highlights of the event will be your three seconds of fame as your Master reads your name to the audience, watching your friends and classmates graduate, and, most importantly, taking your well-earned steps out of the Sallyport. By the time the ceremony ends, you'll be the owner of a fancy new Rice degree and you'll be able to walk in and out of the Sallyport fearlessly.

RICE TRADITIONS

ESPERANZA AND RONDOLET

While there's certainly no shortage of social events at Rice, most of these center around a specific theme and call for creative costumes. Sometimes we like to show that we clean up nicely for the right occasions. Esperanza (ESP-uh-RON-zah) is the fall formal affiliated with Homecoming and is organized by the Rice Program Council (RPC). RPC has also recently reintroduced Rondolet, Rice's spring formal. These events are frequently hosted at exciting venues such as the Museum of Natural History, Minute Maid Park, or nice hotels and restaurants in the nearby area. Regardless of whether your date is a romantic interest, good friend, or just a casual acquaintance, these formals are a great time to put on your fancy clothes and have some fun.



SCREW-YER-ROOMMATE

Screw-Yer-Roommate is a Rice tradition, put on by Rice Program Council (RPC), that takes place every fall. It provides two valuable opportunities—the chance to get a date, and the chance to put your roommate in an extremely awkward situation. In the weeks leading up to Screw, you and your roommate set each other up on blind dates with other Rice students. The dates meet each other based on their themed costumes, which their roommates coordinate. It's a great opportunity to get creative and enjoy the creativity of your classmates all across campus, plus the added benefit of dressing your roommate up however your heart desires.

JACKS

Jacks are one of many manifestations of college pride. A jack is a prank pulled on one college by another during O-Week and Willy Week, the week leading up to Beer Bike. The best jacks are non-destructive, non-permanent jokes about another college's inferiority. The best jacks also come from Wiess. The ideal jack makes fun of another college's theme or something intrinsic about them.

Arguably the most infamous jack of all time was also pulled by Wiessmen. A team of Wiess senior engineers designed, tested, and constructed an A-frame to turn Willy's statue around to face the library (you really have to ask Doward Hudlow, an Associate, to tell you this story because he can do a great job). They spent weeks analyzing campus movements late at night, and that night they unscrewed a bulb on top of Anderson Hall so the quad would be dark. They had it timed so they could flip the statue in under five minutes. The administration threatened not to let these guys graduate and wanted them to pay for having a professional company come re-rotate the statue. To raise money to pay for the damages (which were caused by the professionals), the guys sold shirts with their plans. You can sometimes see these shirts on some of our Associates.



Jacks are beautiful, but never pin a jack on another college. A jack is something to be proud of and you don't want another college to get your credit. If you think you might get into so much trouble that you want someone else to get the credit and blame, it's probably not a good jack.



BEER BIKE

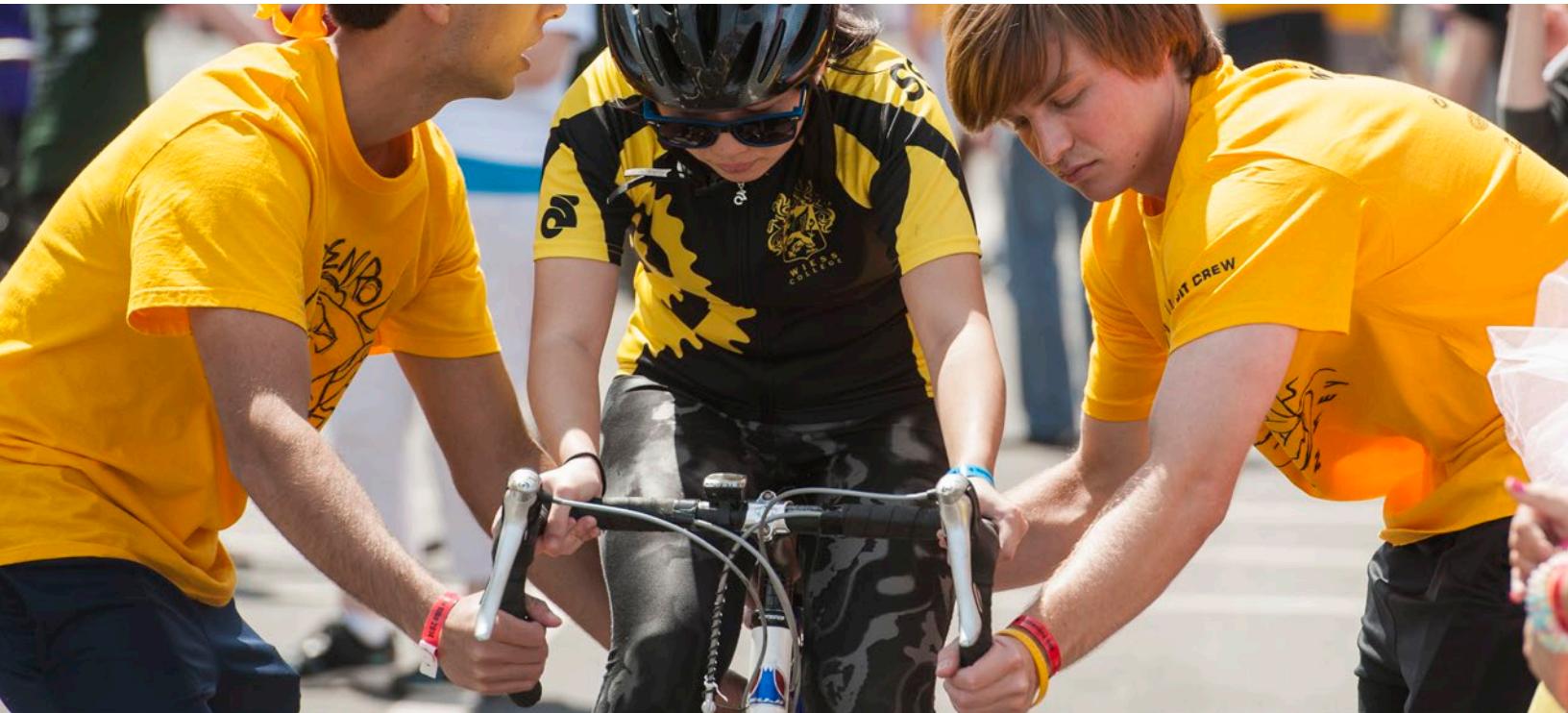
Beer Bike is more than a tradition; it is a time of bonding, cheering, and competition for each of the residential colleges. For months the bikers and the chuggers practice, for weeks the colleges cheer, and for days students fill up as many water balloons as possible. All is done in preparation for the glorious and legendary day of Beer Bike.

The week leading up to Beer Bike is called Willy Week (Willy is our affectionate name for William Marsh Rice). During Willy Week, the university celebrates Willy's Birthday with a variety of events and a celebratory atmosphere that affects every student on campus.

The morning of Beer Bike is marked by a campus-wide parade with floats created by each college and

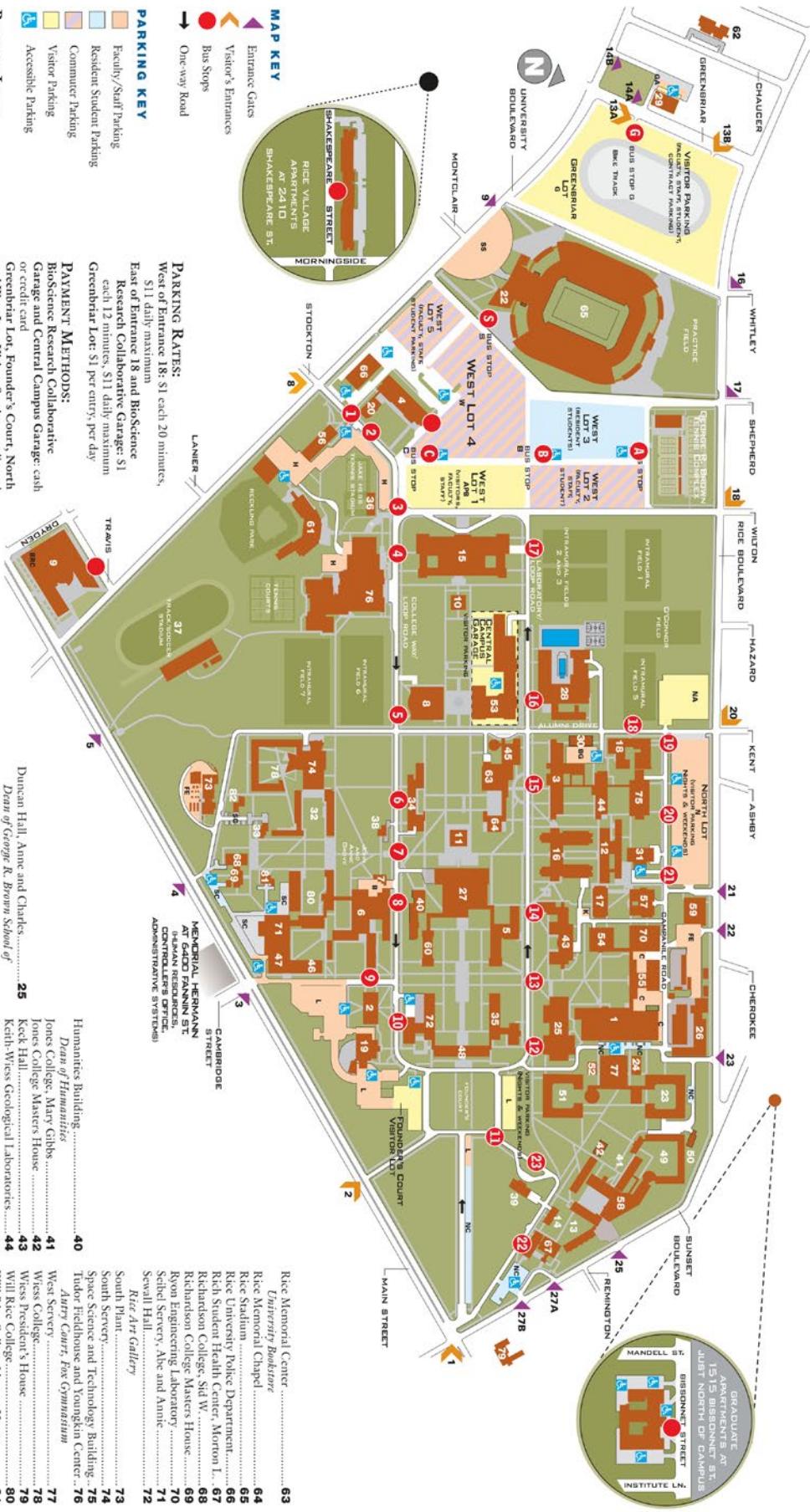
a massive water balloon fight that we're pretty sure is the largest in the world. In one hour, thousands of water balloons fly through the air, and afterwards, colleges parade to the bike track.

The actual race itself takes place on a special track on campus and consists of ten bikers and ten chuggers who alternate between the chuggers chugging water and the bikers doing laps. Beer Bike represents the culmination of months of practice, college enthusiasm, and the desire to sweep the races (that is: win the men's, women's, and alumni races). The colleges design t-shirts for Beer Bike and during the thrilling relay race, they scream their cheers and root for their team. It is often regarded as the most exciting day of the year and the absolute peak of college spirit on campus.



RICE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP

1/09/2013



WIESS COLLEGE O-WEEK 2015 | **60**



CAMPUS RESOURCES

CAMPUS SAFETY

RICE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT (RUPD)

Rice has its very own police force that patrols campus 24/7, making sure that you stay safe. They are a fully-fledged police department with all the same power and responsibility as the Houston Police Department and special training regarding the college environment. Each of Rice's 30 RUPD officers is assigned to a college to foster trust and familiarity! You should never be nervous about RUPD. If there is any situation on campus where you feel unsafe or threatened, there are blue-light emergency phones all over campus that dial RUPD immediately; you can also call them at 713-348-6000.

RUPD is dedicated to campus safety. A large part of campus safety involves securing Rice's facilities. For example, in order to enter the building at Wiess, you need to use either your Rice ID card or your keys. Your ID also provides you access to many buildings and services on campus. It's important to get in the habit of keeping your ID and keys with you at most (if not all) times. If you forget your ID card and keys during daytime hours, your College Coordinator can help you into the building. If you forget after hours or on the weekend, you can call RUPD and they will help you out.

Some classes, clubs, and organizations meet at night, so students often walk through the campus after dark. It's always best practice to walk with a friend or two when you are going across campus (it's more fun too!). Rice is generally safe, but you should always be aware of your surroundings and where safety resources (RUPD and blue-light towers) are located. If you decide that you don't want to walk around at night, there are shuttles that can take you anywhere on campus.

RUPD is a police department, but not one that is threatening or overbearing. They are genuine people who care a lot about keeping Rice safe. Make sure to say hi to the RUPD officers that you see around campus patrolling on bikes, in cars, and on golf carts. Don't forget their number (713-348-6000) if anything comes up!

RICE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (REMS)

When you're in class one day and the person next to you suddenly looks down at their wrist, jumps up, and runs out in the middle of the lecture, don't be surprised. This probably means that a few seconds ago, somewhere on campus, someone just got hurt or became very sick. The phrase "call RUPD!" was uttered, a cell phone was dialed, and a dispatcher sent out a page to the REMS duty crew. In just a few minutes, emergency REMS vehicles will arrive at the scene of the call. Highly-trained Rice students are the first responders in these situations.

REMS operates one of the most prestigious collegiate EMS programs in the country. REMS provides emergency pre-hospital care to the Rice community 24/7 and handles everything from sprained ankles to heart attacks to alcohol poisonings. All members are student volunteers who have undergone extensive training to receive national certification. With an average response time of less than four minutes, the men and women of REMS are committed to providing the best care possible to anyone who needs it. Call them at 713-348-6000 (same as the RUPD) whenever you perceive a potential medical issue. REMS focuses on safety first; they will not punish students for calling them.

If you find that you love talking with these REMS members, favor pants with lots of pockets, or have an interest in patient care and being part of a great service to Rice, then the EMT-Basic class (EMSP 281) could be for you. For more information on REMS, visit their website at rems.rice.edu.



STUDENT SUCCESS



RICE UNIVERSITY
**STUDENT
 SUCCESS
 INITIATIVES**

Student Success Initiatives (SSI) is responsible for supporting students from matriculation to graduation to identify support networks in various campus communities, to understand resources critical to excelling, and to develop strategies to overcome challenges they face while at Rice. The first time you connect with SSI is during O-Week. First Year Programs, the office within SSI responsible for O-Week and other transition programming, works with student, faculty, staff, and community partners to design a comprehensive program to welcome you to your new home.

After O-Week, you will have frequent opportunities to engage with SSI both in the classroom and around campus. One such way is by enrolling in UNIV 110, a foundations course for first-year students that many seniors have described as what they wish they had known when they started at Rice. SSI also supports first generation college students through our Rice Firsts Mentoring and Rice Firsts Advocate Training. Lastly, they offer programming, trainings, and practical skill-building to help with time management, learning styles assessment, study skills, interpersonal communication, career guidance, and more.

Since there are many critical resources on campus, SSI can be a great starting place if you are unsure of where to begin. SSI collaborates and facilitates interactions with other departments and community partners to help students achieve success. Email SSI at success@rice.edu or visit them online at success.rice.edu.

STUDENT HEALTH

HEALTH SERVICES

Health Services is located in the Morton Rich Health Center next to Brown College. They provide a variety of different services for students that help prevent health issues, as well as address illnesses when they arise. The center has a fully functioning doctor's office and fulfills most common medical needs, such as simple physicals, gynecological exams, and seasonal influenza vaccines. They also offer testing for sexually transmitted diseases and travel consultations. You can make appointments Monday through Friday (8:00 AM–5:00 PM) by calling 713-348-4966. For more information on Health Services, visit their website at health.rice.edu.

STUDENT WELLBEING

The Wellbeing and Counseling Center at Rice University has a professional staff who are trained to assist students in getting wellbeing support. This includes: Confidential Counseling, Title IX Support, Wellbeing Advising and Peer Guidance.

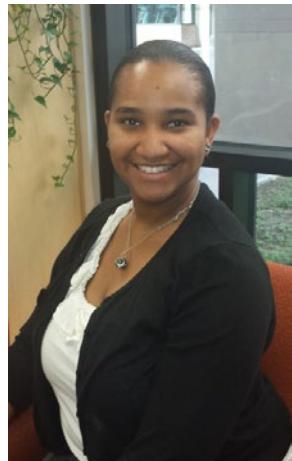
Confidential Counseling offers free solution-focused, short-term treatment. Students can also consult with the professional staff for mental health concerns and get referrals for services and programs in the Houston area.

Title IX Support assists students in learning about options on and off campus for getting support and making a report if you or a friend has experienced sexual or relationship violence.

Wellbeing Advising assists students in addressing wellbeing concerns, such as stress management, procrastination, conflicts with friends, roommate issues, difficulty making decisions, struggling identity, academic concerns, or problems that are more serious in nature.

Peer Guidance is achieved through the Rice Health Advisors (RHAs), who are fellow students who have been trained on a variety of wellbeing topics such as roommate conflict resolution, time management, self-care, and on-campus resources. They work at

your residential college to provide health education opportunities, health supplies, and peer support. Steven Ajluni is our O-Week RHA, and you can check out the Extra Resources section at the very end of this book for a list of all the year-long Wiess RHAs.



Students can contact the Wellbeing and Counseling Center at 713-348-3311 to schedule an appointment or a consultation. The Center is located at the Gibbs Recreation and Wellness Center. Walk-ins are welcome during normal business hours. **Saralyn Hernandez** is our awesome Wiess liaison (pictured left); you can

meet her in the fall, but you can also set up an appointment with any of the advisors. For more information, please visit wellbeingandcounseling.rice.edu.

RECREATION CENTER

Trying to avoid the infamous Freshman 15? Have no fear, the Rec is here! The Barbara and David Gibbs Recreation and Wellness Center (or “the Rec”) is fully equipped to suit your fitness needs. Whether you want to shoot hoops, play squash or racquetball, work on your dance moves in a studio, swim some laps in the competition pool, or prove that you lift in the weight room, there is something here for you! It’s also a great place to relax and hang out with friends, with several pool and ping-pong tables inside and a leisure pool outside.

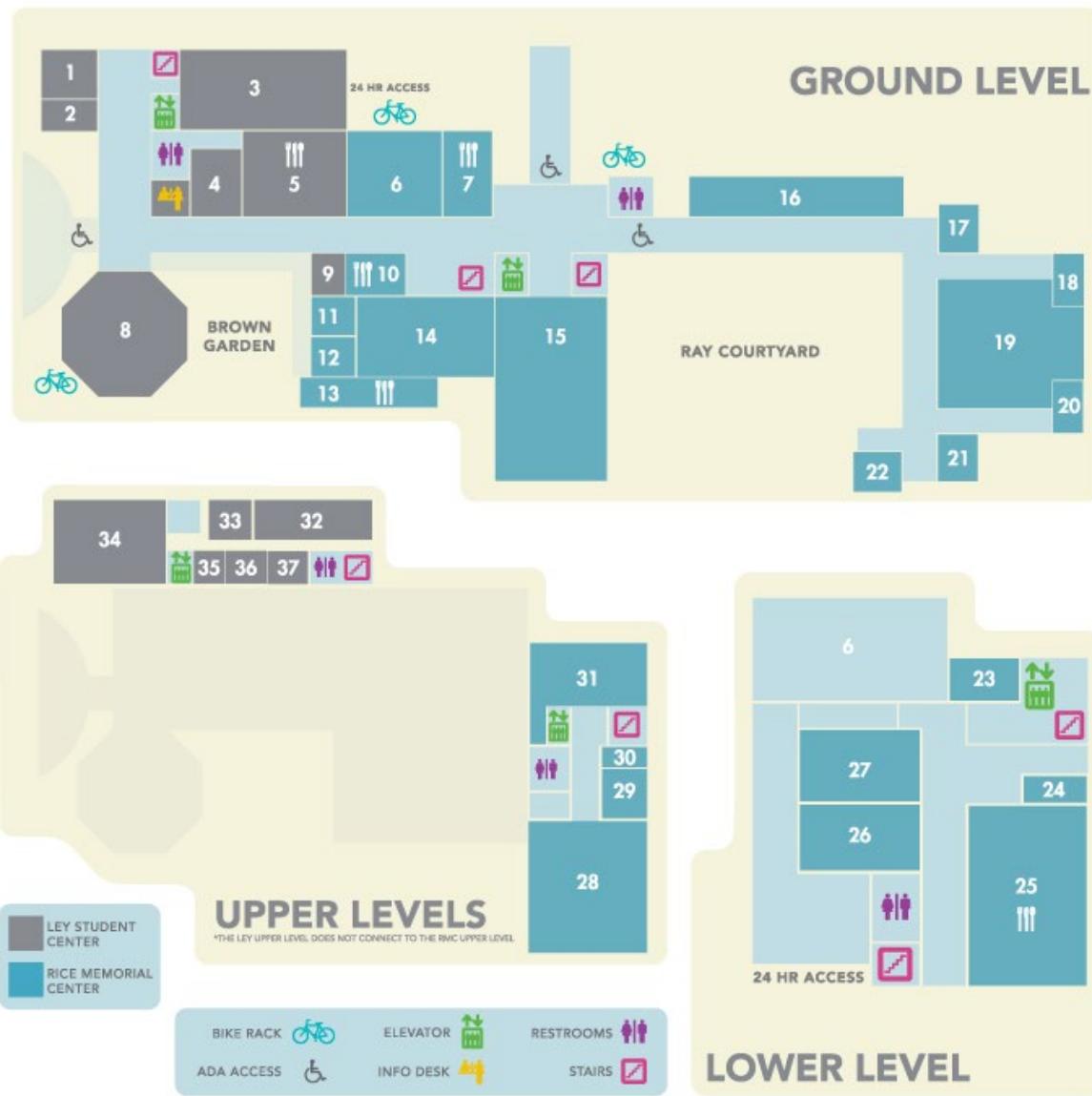
The Rec also has a wide range of free, regularly scheduled fitness classes (called SWEAT classes), including Zumba, Spinning, and Kickboxing. It’s also home to Rice Outdoor Programs and Education (ROPE), which offers camping equipment rentals and a variety of different outdoor trips!

Whatever your preferred workout time, the Rec is open early and late, so drop by any time you want a workout or just need a study break. Grab your tennis shoes or beach towel and head on over!



RICE MEMORIAL CENTER

The RMC, also known as the Student Center, is home to many of the resources that will be covered in the next few pages. The RMC also has office spaces for organizations and conference rooms, as well as chairs and couches to study, eat, or just hang out. Many events are often held in the RMC, and if you ever have any questions about what's going on or where to find something, don't hesitate to ask someone at the Info Desk!



OTHER RESOURCES



RICE WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER (RWRC)

The Rice Women's Resource Center aims to promote gender equality and women's advocacy in order to foster a supportive and engaged community on campus. The RWRC was founded in 1996 and has grown to become a large and vibrant organization that serves everyone (not just women!) on campus. Located in the RMC just across from Coffeehouse, the RWRC is staffed with student volunteers who answer questions about anything pertaining to women at Rice, distribute items such as condoms, hair elastics, pads, and tampons, and help Rice students locate appropriate resources, such as the Wellness Center or the Houston Area Women's Center. There are always students in the RWRC hanging out, working on homework, or discussing an issue they are passionate about—it's a safe space full of friendly people! The volunteers and coordinators hold a variety of programs throughout the year. Annual events include the Vagina Monologues, Consent is Sexy Week, and a women's self-defense class. They also host speakers, lunches, panels, and other social events that are open to anyone! Bring your unique talents to the RWRC as a volunteer by working in the office, serving on a committee, or contributing written or visual work to our monthly magazine. For more information, visit women.rice.edu.

LGBTQA+ RESOURCES

Rice has a strong LGBTQA+ community and many supportive allies. Members of this community are included, respected, and welcome in all that Rice has to offer. There are different resources on campus that create a network of support: namely, the Queer Resource Center (QRC), Queers & Allies (Q&A), Query, and the Student Wellbeing Office. The QRC is an umbrella organization for other queer groups on campus, and has a mission of support, visibility, and activism for the LGBTQA+ community. It acts as a medium for continuous enhancement of life on campus through projects, which range from organizing Rice's Pride Week to ensuring O-Week is the best it can be for new students of all genders, sexualities, and identities. Q&A is a social group, hosting weekly meetings and events throughout the year for queers and allies. Query is a discussion-focused group that meets and talks about gender-related and queer-related ideas and issues. The Student Wellbeing Office hosts Ally Training sessions throughout the year so that students (of all identities) can better understand what the LGBTQA+ community is about and how to ensure they create the best environment for each other. Off-campus, the Montrose Center offers a variety of services, such as support groups like HATCH and the LGBT switchboard; it is also a great place to volunteer. Whether you are a part of the LGBTQA+ community or a happy supporter, we're excited to have you here at Rice!



DISABILITY SUPPORT

Coming to college requires a great change in lifestyle for everyone, but especially those with disabilities. At Rice, Disability Support Services does an amazing job of trying to accommodate everyone's needs, from providing accessible housing to incorporating sign language interpreters. They also accommodate students with short-term disabilities. If you have any questions, check out the website at dss.rice.edu.

SUSTAINABILITY

At Rice, the goal of becoming more sustainable in the use of resources has permeated many aspects of our university's operations, from how they build and operate our buildings to the type and origin of the food that they serve. Many of these initiatives are driven by partnerships between students, faculty, and staff through courses and independent study projects, as well as through environmental organizations. Students are often the driving force behind environmental change and improvement at Rice. There are numerous opportunities outside the classroom for students to become engaged with environmental issues. Some focus on change at Rice; others directly engage the broader community.

6 Easy Ways to Keep Rice Green

- Make sure faucets and shower heads are turned off completely
- Bike more, drive less
- Turn off the lights when you leave the room
- Print double-sided
- Unplug your appliances when you're not using them, especially at night
- Use reusable water bottles and coffee mugs



REGISTRAR

The Registrar keeps track of the courses you're taking, as well as your grades. Located in the Allen Center, the Registrar is also where you declare majors, turn in special registration forms, and request transcripts. Their website is registrar.rice.edu, but most of the forms and links you need can be found on ESTHER.

FINANCIAL AID

The Office of Student Financial Services (what everyone calls Financial Aid) is located in the Allen Center. Whether you have a question about work study, a loan, grant, or scholarship, come here for information and assistance. For more information, visit financialaid.rice.edu.



PARKING AND SHUTTLES

As a new student, you have the option to pay for a parking permit in either West Lot or Greenbriar Lot. For more information about parking or prices, go to parking.rice.edu.

Rice also has shuttle services for multiple locations on- and off-campus. The Inner Loop Shuttle runs every 5–8 minutes from Monday to Friday, 6AM to 10:45 PM. There is also a Rice Village Shuttle on Friday and Saturday nights, as well as a Shopping Shuttle that goes to Target and Fiesta on Saturdays from 11AM to 3PM. Visit transportation.rice.edu for route details and bus.rice.edu for a shuttle tracker.

A Night Escort Shuttle runs from 10PM to 6AM (3AM on Friday and Saturday). It can take you to any building on campus, as well as Rice Village Apartments, Graduate Apartments, and the BioResearch Collaborative (BRC). Call 713-348-3333 for night escort services.

COMPUTING AT RICE



As you've noticed, with the countless surveys, emails, and general Rice information found online, a computer is going to be an important tool for your college experience. Luckily, Rice has a fantastic Information Technology (IT) department, which will provide for all of your computer needs during your Rice years. IT provides course software, as well as printers, in every college and several public labs. Learn more at it.rice.edu.

If you run into any trouble with your computer, talk to the IT ambassador in your college. They are students who will keep you informed about services and direct you to support. Tech assistance is also provided from the IT Help Desk through email (helpdesk@rice.edu), telephone (713-348-4357), or online (helpdesk.rice.edu).

If you're struggling to choose a computer, here are some general tips that may help with your decision.

USAGE

Most students use their computers for email access, word processing, listening to music, and doing homework. There aren't any majors at Rice that require a particular type of computer, so most standard laptops or desktops will work just fine.

PUBLIC COMPUTERS

While most people bring their own computers to Rice, this is by no means necessary. There is a

plethora of campus computer labs packed with Macs, PCs, and UNIX workstations for student use. Most buildings have at least one computer lab open 24 hours a day. The computers in these labs have all the programs that one would expect (a word processor, spreadsheet, and database manager), any program required for class, and internet access.

LAPTOPS VS. DESKTOPS

While a laptop is convenient for taking notes in class, working in the commons, and transporting on plane rides home, many people use desktops without a problem. However, most find that the flexibility that a laptop provides outweighs the benefits of a desktop setup.

APPLE VS. PC

Both Apple computers and PCs work without any problems on the Rice network and for classwork, regardless of your major. Any software deficiencies with either computer is easily overcome with the computers available in labs.

Once you've picked a computer, connect it to Rice's wired and wireless networks by using the instructions found in the IT O-Week web site: itoweek.rice.edu.

JOE ITGUY

Joe ITguy is a liaison for the Help Desk. From his Facebook page, Joe ITguy provides news about Rice technology and posts general tips about account security, connecting to printers, and other tech topics. He occasionally "hosts" study breaks you wouldn't want to miss!



FOOD AND DRINK

SERVERIES

Welcome to South Servery! Fresh brick-oven pizzas, D.I.Y. waffles, and famous cinnamon rolls await you. Get excited. The freshman fifteen exists because there is so much food that it's hard not to find something you like to eat...or a dozen things you want to eat in one sitting. But really, there is something for everyone.

Breakfast offers an assortment of regular hot items like scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, oatmeal, pancakes, French toast, and waffles, along with the usual staples: cereal, milk, bagels, danishes, yogurt, fruit, and granola. Lunch usually consists of a variety of pizza, a salad bar, fresh fruit, a sandwich bar, made-to-order burgers, and a daily hot special (including vegetarian-friendly options). Dinner is similar to lunch with a different hot special, but just as good. And the most important meal... dessert. Fresh cookies and ice cream are available during lunch, as well as dinner where the chefs will also surprise you with specialty treats like tiramisu, cheesecake, cinnamon rolls, etc.



During lunch and dinner, if you aren't feeling the daily hot dishes, you can always get cereal, milk, fruit (usually bananas, oranges, and apples), bread, peanut butter and jelly, which are always available—no matter what time of day. There are also a variety of drink options, including water, coffee, tea, juice, milk, and soda. If you have any dietary restrictions, don't hesitate to talk to the chefs; they are very accommodating and will make sure that your dietary needs are met. On days that you're feeling adventurous, you can also explore the serveries at other colleges. Check out their menus at

dining.rice.edu to scope out all the exciting food options available for you!

If you're living on-campus, you'll probably have the standard meal plan, which gives you breakfast, lunch, and dinner on weekdays. Serveries are closed on Saturday evenings, which allows you to explore the fantastic restaurants throughout Houston (check out "Places to Eat" for ideas on pages 111–112).

If you don't feel like leaving campus on Saturday night, there are also sometimes events that provide free or cheap food. On Sunday, you get brunch and dinner for a total of 19 meals during the week.

If you're living off-campus, you can get a regular or reduced meal plan, based on your preferences. Another option is to add Tetra points onto your ID to use for food. In addition to the serveries, you can also use Tetra at Sammy's, Droubi's, Brochstein, Coffeehouse, Willy's Pub, RechargeU, The Hoot, the Whoo Deli, and the Farmer's Market.

SAMMY'S

Sammy's is a very popular destination for graduate students, off-campus students, and those who just want a change of pace from the serveries. The menus feature fresh ingredients from the Rice Farmer's Market and emphasize local, healthy, non-processed food. At Sammy's, you'll have a variety of options, including 4PointTaco, Grillosophy (a gourmet grill), In the Loop (char-grilled pizza), Use Your Noodle (fresh, homemade pasta and salad), Whoo Deli (hot sandwiches and daily soups), and Parliament of Chefs (featured items from each of the serveries).

WILLY'S PUB

Want to kick back after a long day and hang out with your friends watching TV, playing games, or relaxing on a couch? Want to enjoy a beer or cider if you're 21 or over? How about hot, fresh food served until 2AM? Well, you can find all of these things at Willy's Pub, Rice's oldest student-run business. Founded in 1975, Pub has changed a lot over the past 40 years, but their mission to provide a place on campus for students to take a break from Rice life has remained the same. While Pub is best known for

its busy Thursday nights, it also offers Wednesday night trivia and Keep the Glass promotional events. Whenever you want a spot to relax on campus, come to the RMC basement and check Pub out!



RECHARGEU

RechargeU is located in the RMC next to the bookstore and is an on-campus convenience store. Stocked with food and snacks that range from healthy to indulgent, RechargeU has something for everyone. They also have a wide variety of other items, so if you're short on laundry detergent or need some aspirin, RechargeU has you covered too!

BROCHSTEIN

Sometimes known as the “giant glass building in the middle of campus,” Brochstein offers a variety of beverages and food by Salento—a blend of Latin American and European cuisine, featuring sandwiches, salads, smoothies, coffee, and pastries. The modern symmetrical design creates an open and inviting space to do work, chat with friends, or have group meetings. They have plenty of indoor and outdoor seating, so if you’re looking for a place to be productive or just relax, drop by Brochstein!

VALHALLA

Valhalla is Rice’s Graduate Student Pub, which started over 40 years ago as a place for graduate students to hang out, relax, and socialize after a long day of school or work. They are staffed by graduate students and alumni volunteers. While Valhalla was started for graduate students, undergraduates are welcome to come hang out as well! You have to be 21 or over to buy alcohol, but Valhalla also sells cheap sandwiches for lunch.

FARMER’S MARKET

The Rice Farmer’s Market is dedicated to supporting activities, goods, and services that promote community education about the benefits of eating fresh, locally-produced food. Vendors offer fresh produce, artisan breads and baked goods, homemade pasta and sauces, quality jams and nut butters, free-range pastured meat, and many others. They also hold at least four large festivities throughout the year, featuring chef demonstrations, local brewery sampling, and market giveaways. They’re open Tuesdays from 3:30 PM to 6:30 PM, rain or shine—so drop by to get some delicious food!



STUDENT-RUN BUSINESSES

The Student Center supports and advises three student-run and -managed businesses on campus. Full time undergraduate students are responsible for all aspects of their businesses, including but not limited to finance, personnel, inventory, marketing and training. Working in a student-run business provides a unique experiential learning opportunity to gain hands-on skills useful for any career path. Each business hires new employees every semester.



COFFEEHOUSE

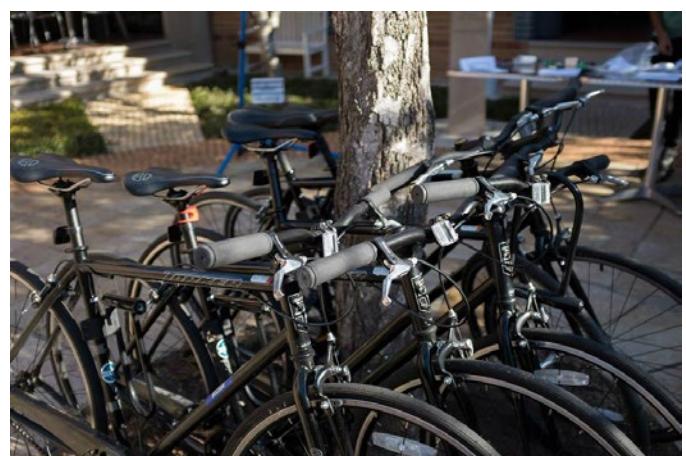
"A Proud Purveyor of America's Most Socially Acceptable Drug," Coffeehouse is Rice's student-run coffee shop, but also so much more. A social hub for many, Coffeehouse is home to groups meeting to work on projects, friends catching up over crafted lattes, students "espressing" themselves through performances, and others furiously chugging caffeine as they pull all-nighters. You'll soon learn that Coffeehouse is indeed the best college. What's that? Coffeehouse isn't even a college? That hasn't stopped people from making it their home within this tight-knit community. Expect to spend a lot of time and Tetra points under Coffeehouse's skylights over the next four years. And for those interested in becoming KOCs (Keepers of Coffee), Coffeehouse hires at the beginning of each semester!

THE HOOT

Established in 2010, The Hoot proudly offers affordable on-campus late night food! Operating at both South Servery and West Servery, The Hoot sells Papa John's pizzas and Chick-Fil-A sandwiches Sunday through Friday, as well as a wide array of snacks and drinks. Drop by on your way to Fondren and pick up a Monster for your all-nighter, the employees are judgment-free! Open from 9:30 PM to 1:30AM, The Hoot happily serves hungry owls, because everyone knows an exam is easier to study for when you aren't starving. Like Coffeehouse, The Hoot also takes Tetra points—so come on by and grab a snack!

RICE BIKES

Located in the Brown Courtyard of the RMC, the Rice Bikes is a full-service bike shop and rental service open to students, faculty, and the community at-large. They sell refurbished bicycles and offer repairs at prices that beat all local competition. Started in the basement of Sid Richardson College in 2009, the Rice Bike Shop originally only had two mechanics. Over time, many bike enthusiasts joined, and in 2013, the Rice Bikes rental program won a grant to buy a fleet of 30 Torker bikes to rent to students on a per-semester basis. In 2014, Rice Bikes moved into a permanent location in the RMC and started "Rice Rides," which are hour-long bike rides to explore a surrounding area of Houston—good for all skill levels and perfect for making new friends. So whether you have a bike, want a bike, or just want to hang out with some cool people, come visit Rice Bikes!



STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

CENTER FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT (CCD)

Located in the Huff House right across from Brown College, the CCD is an incredibly useful resource to help you find a summer internship opportunity or a job post-graduation. Whatever you're seeking, the CCD is always available to help you edit your resume, improve your interview skills, and find information about opportunities that may be right for you.

In addition to helping you with your internship/job search, the CCD organizes various events to connect students with companies and alumni, including seminars, workshops, and job fairs. The CCD is the place to go when researching companies, finding out more about working abroad, or getting personal advice on potential career paths. The staff is very helpful and more than willing to meet with you. Visit their website at ccd.rice.edu and check out RICELink, which is where you can set up appointments and submit applications to the job and internship opportunities that the CCD posts. RICELink is also a good resource to keep up with other CCD events, like the Career and Internship Expos on campus. Though it may be early in your college career and seem nerve-wracking to think about post-graduation plans already, just being present at various CCD events can give you a strong leg up during your first year. Many companies offer rewarding programs that people only find out about through these events, so take advantage of them!

CENTER FOR CIVIC LEADERSHIP (CCL)

The CCL fosters engaged citizenship among Rice students through integrated curricular and experiential learning opportunities. These opportunities help students develop civic leadership skills by better understanding themselves and their responsibilities as citizens, as well as the complexity of social issues and the mechanisms for creating sustainable change beyond the hedges. The CCL is a hub for Rice's engagement with off-campus partners in Houston, the U.S., and around the world.

In addition to academic coursework in leadership, the CCL offers research, service, and internship opportunities that enable students to work with

partners in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. Programs include Urban Immersion, Alternative Spring Break, Houston Action Research Teams, the Loewenstein Fellowship, and the Leadership Rice Mentorship Experience. While CCL programs are open to all undergraduates, those who seek greater depth in their leadership development have the opportunity to pursue the Certificate in Civic Leadership. As the home to undergraduate fellowships advising, the CCL also allows students to build upon their academic, service, and leadership experiences by identifying undergraduate and post-baccalaureate opportunities that best meet their goals. Find more information at ccl.rice.edu.

TEACHER EDUCATION

Do you love working with people? Are you passionate about sharing your ideas and thoughts and helping others build their own? You might be interested in teaching! Teachers are important members of any community who help build the next generation and commit themselves to continued growth and inquiry throughout their careers.

Rice offers a great Teacher Education program that allows students to get certified in secondary education (grades 7–12) within the traditional four undergraduate years. Or you can get a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in just five years! Students in the Teacher Education programs come from all majors and fields of interests. In addition to their major coursework, they complete a series of education courses, such as Teaching Diverse Learners and Teaching and Learning with Inquiry. These help prepare for the capstone learning experience—full-time student teaching during the spring semester of senior year.

Almost all education courses are open to anyone who's interested (not only to those pursuing Texas teacher certification). So if you're passionate about education, but not sure about becoming a teacher, be sure to still check out the courses! There's a wide variety, including Contemporary Issues in Education, Educational Psychology, Urban Education, and Education Policy. Visit teach.rice.edu to learn more.

A dark gray background featuring a subtle, repeating pattern of stylized leaves and flowers, resembling a botanical or floral watermark.

ACADEMICS

OVERVIEW

Somewhere in the process of filling out all the forms on Esther, you've indicated what some of your academic interests might be. While it's great if you have a plan for what you want to do, it's also totally fine if you aren't sure what you want to study. Regardless where you lie on the spectrum, you'll have plenty of time during O-Week to learn all about academics at Rice. Our curriculum is designed so you can gain both general knowledge and discipline-specific expertise. No matter what your major is, you'll take a few courses in three major areas: Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences and Engineering. These are called distribution courses, and while you are required to take a certain number of hours in each area, you can choose which ones you'd like to take! Study a foreign language you've been interested in, learn about the sociology of food, or take an astronomy course—because why not? It's not at all uncommon for students to discover a new passion through a class taken for distribution credit.

But still, how do you choose what classes to take?

Start by talking to your Peer Academic Advisors, as well as your Fellows—both inside and outside of your O-Week group, especially those heading down academic paths you find interesting. Meet with a Divisional Advisor to get a broader perspective on what courses and opportunities the different divisions offer. College is about figuring out what your interests are, so take advantage of your time at Rice to discover what you're passionate about. Students will have their own unique undergraduate experiences and personalized academic plans. Don't feel pressured to make up your mind right away—you don't have to declare your major until your sophomore year, and even then, you can still change it. You have time to explore and figure out your plan, and you've got plenty of people who are trained and excited to help you along the way! If you want to get a preliminary look at graduation and major requirements, take a look at the General Announcements website, ga.rice.edu. And keep an eye out for the Office of Academic Advising's "Introduction to Academics at Rice" PowerPoint, which you will receive before O-Week.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR The Office of the Registrar publishes an academic calendar for each academic period (Fall, Spring, Summer). They are a great resource for academic deadlines as well as future planning for holidays and travel. Information includes but is not limited to the following: registration dates, holidays, tuition deadlines, grade deadlines for instructors, final exam periods, and orientation/commencement dates.

FALL 2015

Aug. 16–21	O-Week
Aug. 24	First Day of Classes
Sep. 7	Labor Day
Oct. 12–13	Mid-Term Recess
Nov. 2	Spring 2016 Registration Begins
Nov. 26–27	Thanksgiving Recess
Dec. 4	Last Day of Classes
Dec. 5–8	Study Days for Final Exams
Dec. 9–16	Final Exams

SPRING 2016

Jan. 11	First Day of Classes
Jan. 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Feb. 27–Mar. 6	Spring Break
Mar. 14	Summer 2015 Registration Begins
Mar. 28	Fall 2016 Registration Begins
Mar. 31–Apr. 1	Mid-Term Recess
Apr. 22	Last Day of Classes
Apr. 23–26	Study Days for Final Exams
Apr. 27–May 4	Final Exams
May 13–14	103 rd Graduation Commencement



ACADEMIC ADVISING

Even if you've done some serious research, you're bound to have some questions about your academic path when you arrive at Rice. Fortunately, the **Office of Academic Advising (OAA)** has resources to help you!

At each college, there are four **Peer Academic Advisors (PAAs)** during O-Week. These students are trained to introduce you to all of the academic resources you need to begin your academic career at Rice—whether it's understanding graduation requirements, providing a student perspective, explaining the GA or finding an upperclassman with the same major you're interested in. If you want guidance from a faculty member, each college also has **Divisional Advisors (DAs)**, who can help you with your interests in any of the four main academic divisions (Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Engineering).

In addition, there are **Major Advisors** for every major at Rice. If you're an Architecture or Music student, you'll also have a specific advisor to help set up your schedule in those disciplines. Additionally, OAA is staffed by a team of professional advisors to help you both during O-Week and throughout your time at Rice. They offer advising for students who want to discuss any academic concern including, but not limited to, students who are undecided about their major, transfer students, pre-law and pre-health students, and student-athletes. Check out their website, oaa.rice.edu, for more information.



WIESS 2015-2016 DIVISIONAL ADVISORS

If You're Interested In...	Your DA would be...
Humanities	Dr. Elias Bongmba bongmba@rice.edu
Social Sciences	Dr. Jeffrey Fleisher jfleisher@rice.edu
Natural Sciences	Dr. Daniel Wagner dswagner@rice.edu
Engineering	Dr. Renata Ramos renata.ramos@rice.edu



MAJORS AND MINORS

Rice offers more than 50 undergraduate majors across six divisions of study.

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

- ARCH Architecture
ARCH Architectural Studies

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

- BIOE Bioengineering
CHBE Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
CEVE Civil and Environmental Engineering
CAAM Computational and Applied Mathematics
COMP Computer Science
ELEC Electrical and Computer Engineering
ENVE Environmental Engineering
MSNE Materials Science and NanoEngineering
MECH Mechanical Engineering
STAT Statistics

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

- MDST Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations
HART Art History
ASIA Asian Studies
CLAS Classical Studies
ENGL English
FREN French Studies
GERM German Studies
SPAN Hispanic Studies
HIST History
LASR Latin American Studies
MDEM Medieval and Early Modern Studies
PHIL Philosophy
RELI Religious Studies
SWGS Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality
VADA Visual and Dramatic Arts

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

- MUSI Composition
MUSI Music History
MUSI Music Theory
MUSI Performance

SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES

- ASTR Astronomy
ASTR Astrophysics
BIOS Biological Sciences

- BIOC Biochemistry and Cell Biology
CHEM Chemical Physics
CHEM Chemistry
ESCI Earth Science (Geology/Geophysics)
EBIO Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
ENST Environmental Science*
KINE Kinesiology
MATH Mathematics
PHYS Physics

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

- ANTH Anthropology
CSCI Cognitive Science
ECON Economics
LING Linguistics
MANA Managerial Studies*
ECON Mathematical Economic Analysis
POST Policy Studies*
POLI Political Science
PSYC Psychology
SOCI Sociology
SMGT Sport Management

**Must be declared as a second major*

MINORS AND CERTIFICATES

- AFST African Studies
ANTY Anthropology
BCBM Biochemistry and Cell Biology
BUSI Business
CCL Certificate in Civic Leadership
CEL Certificate in Engineering Leadership
CAMT Computational and Applied Mathematics
EEBM Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
EWSU Energy and Water Sustainability
ENST Environmental Studies
FCAM Financial Computation and Modeling
GLHT Global Health Technologies
JWST Jewish Studies
MATM Mathematics
NAVA Naval Science
NEUR Neuroscience
PLST Politics, Law and Social Thought
PJHC Poverty, Justice, and Human Capabilities
SOCY Sociology
STAS Statistics

MAJOR PERSPECTIVES

NATURAL SCIENCES

If you're thinking about majoring in the natural sciences, you've come to the right place. Rice has an amazing science program, and incredible students to go with it. Whether you start out your freshman year with the "Big Three" (Calculus, Chemistry, and Physics) or use your AP credit to opt into upper-level courses, you will always have plenty of support from both professors and students.

Office hours are offered weekly by professors who are more than happy to give you advice about your major, courses, or homework problems. Professors' office hours are usually supplemented with weekly or bi-weekly TA sessions, geared to help groups of students through tough problem sets or to prepare for an upcoming exam. Students at Rice are also willing to lend a helping hand. Many friendships at Rice are solidified during late night study sessions with food from the Hoot. Our Wiess Mentors are a huge help too; they host study sessions a few nights prior to midterms in order to answer last-minute questions.

Interested in research? Rice professors are great at helping facilitate undergraduate research. Talk to your Divisional Advisor, as well as upperclassmen who are already working in labs you're interested in, and you'll find it's a lot easier than you think to find research opportunities!

Try not to get caught up in the stresses of being a science major; even though it may not seem like it, everyone rides the strugglebus. With planning, balance between work and play, and help from your peers, you will not only get a degree from the Wiess School of Natural Sciences, but also have the experience of a lifetime as a Rice science major.



ENGINEERING

Welcome to the wonderful life of an engineer! You now have a second family here at Rice. Though you may spend a lot of time working and studying, there will never be a lack of help and support from your family away from home. Get excited to tackle challenging problem sets and engage in classes that allow you apply what you learn.

Coming into O-Week, your four-year course plan is pretty set, so you don't have to worry as much about being overwhelmed by all of the courses to choose from. Don't be afraid to explore in your first few semesters though! Maybe engineering isn't for you—but remember, it's a lot easier to switch out of engineering than into engineering. If you think you might be interested in engineering, go ahead and take the introductory courses so you don't have to play catch-up later on.

Professors hold office hours during the week, where you can go and get help with problem sets, class material, or advice on post-graduation plans. Aside from this, TAs also hold weekly homework and review sessions. However, the most important resource is your fellow students. Study groups form naturally among people in class, and intense bonding and friendships result. You'll make some great memories working together on group projects and senior design projects.

Even though engineering is a lot of work, there will always be time for relaxing and having fun. Many engineers have hidden passions and are super involved in their college and extracurricular activities across Rice. No doubt, engineering is hard, but when you learn to think analytically and problem-solve, the world really is at your feet.

HUMANITIES

Although Rice is well-known for its science and Pre-Med programs, the School of Humanities actually offers the largest number of majors at the university. Covering a wide range of topics, humanities degrees are heavy in reading and writing, leading to the development of awesome critical thinking and analytical abilities, as well as some super swanky writing skills. If you major in the humanities, you learn how to think and how to question. You also learn how to take those thoughts and questions and turn them into arguments and theories. These communication skills translate well into a myriad of professional fields and career paths. The classes are typically smaller, allowing students to develop strong relationships with peers and professors. More often than not, classes are discussion-based, allowing students to really engage and learn from each other, as well as from Rice's outstanding faculty. Another great thing about the humanities is that a lot of courses and subjects are interdisciplinary; even courses about really niche topics, such as Early Medieval Art, give students writing, discussion, and critical thinking skills that can be carried over into other areas. Studying the humanities means studying the world and its people—the way they think, write, and document their history and culture. At the end of the day, who wouldn't want to be a part of that?



SOCIAL SCIENCES

Pursuing a social science major is one of the best ways to take advantage of all that Rice has to offer. In the social sciences, you can study a relevant, human-oriented field while developing the statistical, research, and analytical skills that can bring these ideas into action. Course schedules are more flexible—social science majors generally require fewer hours than natural science or engineering disciplines, and many of the majors are based on electives within the major rather than a predetermined course of study. This allows students to focus on what they're most interested in within a given field while allowing for exploration of other academic interests. Many students use this flexibility to double major in other fields and explore a variety of approaches to the discipline. In addition, social science courses, especially at the upper-levels, are some of the smallest at Rice and lead to frequent interaction and discussion with our accomplished faculty. Many Rice students will unexpectedly switch to social sciences after having a positive experience in their distribution courses, so even if you're not considering a social sciences major right now, keep your mind open! Regardless of when you begin your social science journey here at Rice, you're sure to have a unique and enriching academic experience that prepares you for future success.

ARCHITECTURE

Congratulations, you have been accepted into one of the best architecture schools in the United States, Anderson College! Oops, did we say college? While Anderson Hall (the architecture building) isn't technically a college, you will soon spend most of your time with your fellow Architecture students, aka Archis, a group of 20–25 from across the globe. You'll spend countless joyous hours eating, working, and socializing with them in Studio. Studio is your main architecture course and space for design work.

Freshman year is a transition period to help you get accustomed to your new life here at Rice and Anderson. You'll start your six-year curriculum by learning basic design concepts, so you can begin to think like an architect and broaden your understanding of your field. The invaluable advice you receive from reviews will help you represent your ideas and designs more clearly.

Inevitably, there will be long nights, but with the right time management, Archi life is rewarding and fun. You'll bond with other Archis who will become some of the closest friends you'll have at Rice. Late nights will be filled with food and coffee breaks (get to Coffeehouse by 12:45 AM!), dance parties, and group TV or movie showings.

You'll learn a lot, but don't forget to take care of yourself too. Make time to relax! Most of your first-year classes will be general university requirements, so explore other interests. Invite your non-Archi friends to visit and bring you food. Show them your projects and be coolly unsurprised when they don't understand them—they probably won't. Archi life is the good life, so don't be afraid to get going.



MUSIC

Congratulations! You've been accepted to the prestigious Shepherd School of Music. All your hard work and auditions have paid off—don't worry, the fun doesn't stop here. You're now a part of one of the best music schools in the country, and you'll have many opportunities to practice and perform with incredible people. Rice offers a much more amazing, close-knit, and diverse experience than your average conservatory. The School of Music is located in Alice Pratt Brown Hall, fondly referred to as Shepherd. The teachers are held with high respect and regard, both at Shepherd and within the Houston community. Your professors will expect much from you, but you will receive so much in return. And never forget, they're all there to help you become the best musician you can be.

Once you enter the large glass doors of your new favorite building, you'll be greeted with the harmonious sounds of some of the world's most talented young people. And you will become one of them, with the help of the amazing and rigorous curriculum you're about to begin. Shepherd has a large variety of practice rooms (open from 7AM until midnight) that overlook Rice's beautiful campus.

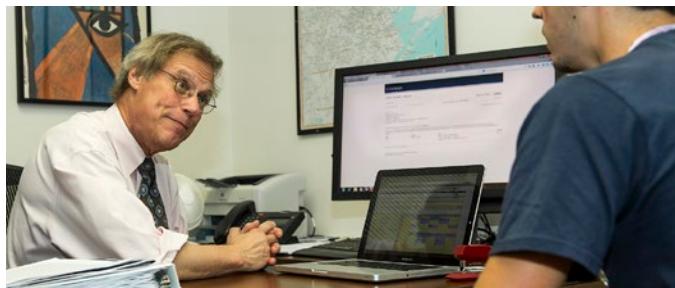
Even though you'll spend many hours practicing, make sure you have time for extracurricular activities and socializing. You have the great privilege of attending many performances at Shepherd and in the Houston community, but also get involved and meet people in your college or across campus. Shepherd and Rice offer great support systems, and you never know what sort of inspiration you can find within the hedges.

DOUBLE MAJOR

Trying to decide between two seemingly opposite majors with no luck? Having conflicts with your parents on what you should study? Luckily for you, Rice has great programs in all of its areas of study and allows you to double, triple, even quadruple major! However, this is not a challenge—you should only pick up multiple majors if you have good reason to. Taking on more than one major means more work that may not be worth it. If you're worried about the courseload but can't bring yourself to abandon one of your majors, look into the minors that Rice offers. These are less intense than majors in terms of requirements, but offer the same learning experience and recognition. You may even find that you're only interested in a handful of courses in a specific area of study; it's completely fine to just take the courses that you're interested in and not pursue the additional major or minor.

Study what interests you, not just what you think will look good on a resume. Really think about why you're deciding to pick up a major or minor. You don't need to formally declare your major(s) until the spring semester of sophomore year, and it's a relatively easy process to change even after you've declared. So really take some time to explore what you want to study during your time at Rice.

It's also not a good idea to double major just because it seems like all of your peers are. There are several people who focus on one major, and some majors have more requirements than others. Having multiple majors definitely requires more work, but if you're truly interested in more than one area of study, don't be deterred! Study what you love, and you'll have a fulfilling academic experience at Rice.



UNDECIDED

So you're undecided and exploring your options. You might find yourself looking at College Confidential and the Rice Facebook group, seeing all those go-getters who already have their three majors and two minors planned out. Don't panic! Especially as a new student, you have time to explore the different academic opportunities that Rice has to offer. Know that if you keep your mind open to all majors and fields of study, you may gain far more than your peers who have every single class for the next few years planned out. Many students, when first coming into college, have a limited idea of what majors exist. Everyone knows about being Pre-Med and Engineering, but few people consider the vast array of majors, including fields like Religious Studies and Linguistics. Here is a bit of advice to help you navigate your academic interests and course selection over your first few semesters:

First of all, keep an open mind! Let yourself experience everything that your mind wants to. There's no better feeling than discovering your one true passion. With that in mind, you may still need some direction in terms of what classes to take. If you're on the fence about being Pre-Med or Engineering, try to take a few of the introductory courses so that you don't fall behind and have to do major catch-up later on. Before you choose a major based on an introductory-level course, check out the course descriptions for the upper-level courses (and talk to upperclassmen who have taken them) to feel out the major. See if you're interested in the whole major or just one class within the major. Test out a variety of courses in different distribution groups.

Lastly, don't think you're alone in this. The whole reason we have O-Week is to introduce you to Rice and everything it has to offer. We've devoted time and resources during O-Week to help you figure out what you want to do with your academic career and how to do it. Take advantage of all the people who are here to help you, and your life will be a whole lot easier. See? Being undecided isn't so scary after all.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVES

PRE-HEALTH

Many new students come to Rice planning to follow the Pre-Health track—whether it's Pre-Med, Pre-Dent, Pre-Vet, Pre-Nursing, Public Health, etc. But many new students also change their minds. Being Pre-Health is more than taking a few specific classes; your focus is also on maintaining an acceptance-worthy GPA and studying for the standardized tests you need. However, being Pre-Health does not define you or your life—make sure you find a healthy balance.

Despite the required classes, you can definitely still study what you love. Many people come into Rice thinking they have to study something that starts with "Bio-": Biochemistry, Bioengineering, Biological Sciences. That's what every Pre-Health student does, right? Nope. You'll find that, yes, there are many Biochemistry/Pre-Med students, but there are also students studying everything from English to Sociology to Religious Studies. There's no cookie-cutter path that you should follow to get into a health professional school. In addition, interviewers sometimes ask, "Why did you pick X major?" If you can't come up with an answer past "everyone else did it" or "it's a Pre-Health major," chances are you're not following your passions.

You should also understand why you want to be a Pre-Health student. Common reasons include "I like helping people" or "I love learning about the human body." It's important to really know why you're choosing to commit to more years of intense study and work after graduation. Health professions require investing a lot of time and effort; while many who choose this path end up loving it, it's important to think about your decision and why you're doing it.

If you decide to be Pre-Health, take advantage of all the resources we have on campus. Being at Rice allows you to explore various fields of interests, inside and outside the classroom. Talk to upperclassmen and get advice from the Health Professions advisors in the Office of Academic Advising (OAA). Look at the OAA's website, oaa.rice.edu, under "Specialized Advising" for

resources such as FAQs, timelines and checklists, and research/internship databases. And don't forget about the Texas Medical Center across the street, where there are even more resources and opportunities to explore your interest in the health professions.

PRE-LAW

So you're considering law school—or maybe you don't really know, but you're keeping it as an option. The good news is that you don't have to know right now. There are pretty much two things that determine which law schools you get into: your GPA and your Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) score. Other than that, keep an eye out for professors who can write you good recommendations if and when you apply to law school.

While there is no recommended major for Pre-Law students, it helps to take reading and writing intensive classes. Some say taking Philosophy Logic can help some with the LSAT. It's also recommended to take Introduction to Law (only offered in the Fall). The professor is a little tough to weed out the class, so don't be scared away on the first day. Consider taking it your sophomore or junior year, because usually most Pre-Laws want to take this course and upperclassmen get registration priority.

Also, join Legalese—Rice's Pre-Law society. They offer guest speaker events and law school admission workshops, as well as a great network of other Pre-Law students and resources. Legalese also works with Student Judicial Programs to put on a law school fair in the fall. If you want some one-on-one advising, talk to the Office of Academic Advising to set up an appointment.

If you think you want to go to law school, find something you're really passionate about, get involved, and maintain a balanced and intellectually challenging curriculum. For more information about Pre-Law programs at Rice, the LSAT, and a sample timeline, visit sjp.rice.edu/prelaw/index.html or oaa.rice.edu under "Specialized Advising."

OTHER PERSPECTIVES

TRANSFER STUDENTS

As a transfer student, your experience will probably be different from most incoming students. You've been through orientation before and already spent a year or two dealing with the craziness of college life. However, O-Week stands apart from all other orientations, so get ready for an exciting new experience.

In order to make the academic aspect of transferring easier, there are a few things to keep in mind. Upon arriving at Rice, there will be an orientation for transfer students to guide you through the university requirements and the transfer credit process. You will be given a transcript listing all of your previous credits, including those that transferred as Rice equivalent courses. Don't worry if some of your courses are listed as TRAN 100/300 credit; you can talk to the transfer credit advisors for each department to try to obtain approval for equivalence credit. The list of transfer credit advisors can be found on the Office of Academic Advising's website, oaa.rice.edu. Bring old syllabi, tests, course descriptions, and other course materials to present to the transfer credit advisors. If you need help with this process, you can talk to your PAAs, academic advisor, or transfer student mentor. The Transfer Student Association will pair you up with a fellow transfer student mentor who is there to answer any questions about credits, life at Rice, or the transfer experience in general.

You may be worried about integrating into a new university as a sophomore or junior, but the residential college system and the resources available at Rice will help make the transition as smooth as possible. Although you may miss certain aspects of your old university, Rice and Wiess are packed with great traditions, fun events, and awesome people that are excited to welcome you to your new home. Rice is like no other university, so come open-minded and ready for the best years of your life!

STUDENT ATHLETES

Congratulations on being a part of the best school in Conference USA! You'll soon meet Sammy the Owl, Athletic Director Joe Kaarlgard, and the terrific support staff in the Office of Academic Advising (OAA). As a student athlete, there are many opportunities for you to get involved. One way is through the Student Athletic Advisory Committee, which is like student council for athletes. You can also become a peer athletic advisor for your sports team.

Student athletes at Rice have a lot more on their plate than the average Rice student. Not only do you have to worry about Rice academics, but you also have to concentrate on your sport. You may have to work a little harder to be more involved in your college, but it's definitely possible and worth it. Although many Rice students seem to be nocturnal Owls, you need to make sure to get enough sleep as a student athlete. It's also important to study hard and stay eligible for your sport. And even though it seems early, start thinking about what you might want to do after college—whether you plan on going pro, continuing your education, or getting a job. If you need help, the OAA has advisors and tutors for every class; you can ask upperclassmen or teammates as well.

Since Rice is such a small school, we have a very tight-knit athletic community; your team will become like a second family. But don't forget that the community extends beyond your own sport. Go out and support your fellow athletes at their matches, games, and events—and invite people from your college to go too!



CHOOSING CLASSES

Choosing your first semester of courses at Rice can seem scary, but don't worry! O-Week provides you with many resources to help figure out a schedule that works for you. If you want to start thinking about it early, here's some handy information.

NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS

Students typically take between 14 and 16 credit hours, and new students are advised to take approximately 15 credit hours during their first semester. To be a full-time student, you need to take between 12 and 20 credit hours per semester. Most courses are worth 3 hours, though labs and language courses may vary. And though most courses are worth the same number of hours, they vary in difficulty. Not all 15-hour schedules are equal, so make sure to talk to your PAAs and Fellows about the workload you can expect from each course. Although you may want to take a variety of new and exciting courses, don't make your first semester too challenging. Rice students usually discover that college courses are more time-consuming and challenging than their high school classes. It's a good idea to give yourself time to adjust to the workload, especially as you are adjusting to your new surroundings here at Rice and Wiess.

SELECTING YOUR CLASSES

Unlike high school, you have more freedom in choosing your classes. Some majors, especially those in engineering, have basic courses you should take early to prepare for later years. Don't pile on too many major courses though; it's always a good idea to take one course outside your area of study that you may find interesting. Undecided? There's plenty of time to shop around, so check out what looks interesting! Excited about looking at courses already? Go to courses.rice.edu: you can filter courses by semester, department, and distribution. But don't worry about coming into Rice with a pre-determined schedule; there will be plenty of time to figure this out and get helpful advice during O-Week.

PREREQUISITES AND AP/IB CREDIT

Upper-level courses sometimes have prerequisites, which are courses you have to take before you're

allowed into upper-levels. However, some AP/IB credit will allow you to skip the prerequisites and jump straight into the course you want (but realize that it's okay to drop back down if you find the upper-level course too challenging). AP/IB credit can also potentially get you major credit, distribution credit, or just general credit toward graduation. Your intended major and future plans may help decide whether or not to use your credits. For example, some medical schools do not accept AP credit for certain courses, so make sure to look into that if you're interested in medical school.

REGISTRATION

As a new student, you will register for your classes during O-Week. After you get your classes figured out, you'll input them online on ESTHER. Towards the end of O-Week, you'll find out which courses you got into. There are limited spots in each class, so you may not get all of the courses you sign up for. Don't worry! This happens to everyone, and you'll be okay. There's an Add/Drop period when you can add (or drop) some courses to get your schedule ironed out. Special Registration is an option where you can ask professors to let you into courses that are full or have other special requirements. If registration scares you, it's okay! We've all been through the process, and everyone is here to help you. This is a basic introduction to the registration process, but you'll learn much more when you arrive for O-Week.

RESOURCES

ga.rice.edu: Information on graduation and major requirements, as well as other academic opportunities and policies/procedures.

oaa.rice.edu: Resources for general and specialized academic planning and contact information for faculty, staff, and student advisors.

courses.rice.edu: A list of every course offered at Rice for each semester.

scheduleplanner.rice.edu: A resource to help plan your classes for the semester.

esther.rice.edu: You'll register for your classes here, and you can also find course and instructor evaluations from past semesters here.

LANGUAGE PLACEMENT EXAMS

In order to take a class in a language you already have prior experience or knowledge of, you must take the language placement exam to determine the most appropriate course level for you. Professors will not let you attend the class without placement test results. While your AP/IB scores can sometimes get you course credit, the placement exam is still required to place you into a class.

Online testing will be available on OWL-Space from August 10, 2015–September 3, 2015. If you have any questions, email CLICplacement@rice.edu.

STUDENT-TAUGHT COURSES

In 2007, Wiess' previous Master, Mike Gustin, came up with the idea for Student-Taught Courses. These courses allowed undergraduate Wiessmen to teach a course in a subject outside the normal university curriculum. Other colleges caught on to just how cool Wiess is and decided to follow suit, starting their own Student-Taught Course programs. Now Student-Taught Courses are open to every member of the undergraduate community. The knowledge our peers have on areas they're passionate about is truly amazing, and Student-Taught Courses allow them to share their unique interests with everyone. Here's a description for a course (taught by one of our Co-Fellows!) this upcoming fall semester:

COLL 104

Asian-American History and Food (McMurtry)

This course will use food as a framework for understanding the history of and contemporary issues facing the Asian-American community. Through individual case studies, students will study how conceptualizations of Asian food and the history of Asian Americans in the food industry reveal larger political and cultural issues.



FWIS

First-year Writing-Intensive Seminar (FWIS) courses are three-credit seminars on a variety of topics, such as Greek mythology, graphic novels, and archeology—all of which fulfill Rice's Writing and Communication requirement. To satisfy the requirement, students must complete both:

- the Composition Exam with the score of "Satisfactory" or FWIS 100
- one FWIS taken in the student's first year at Rice.

All FWIS courses count for distribution credit (D1, D2, or D3—depending on the subject matter), although FWIS 100 does not. These courses cannot be dropped after the second week of classes and cannot be taken pass/fail. Students who receive a "Satisfactory" on the Composition Exam will be randomly assigned to the fall or spring semester to take their FWIS.

While these courses are designed to teach university-level writing and communication skills, FWIS assignments often go beyond the traditional college essay or presentation. Professors might ask students to reflect on field trips to local museums, conduct interviews with members of the Houston community, or even critically examine the experience of a simple stroll through campus. These courses, capped at 15 students, support group discussion and ensure that students receive substantive feedback from instructors on their writing, speaking, and visual communication.

STUDYING ABROAD

Do you want to travel to a different country to study at a thousand-year-old university, volunteer to do community building, or research sociological differences amongst cultures? Do you want to take classes in Chinese, Spanish, or Arabic? Do you want to spend your weekends climbing sand dunes, trekking through rainforests, shopping in bustling marketplaces, or reading under the shadow of world treasures? If you're thinking, "Sign me up!" then you should consider looking into the Study Abroad programs that Rice offers.

Rice is so awesome you might wonder why anyone would want to spend a semester away from it all, but students who have gone abroad will tell you the experience is unforgettable. While you are required to pass a minimum of 12 credit hours at your school abroad, your grades will transfer back to Rice as either a pass or fail. This encourages you to get out there and really explore. Your study abroad experience will teach you about foreign views and customs. It will also force you to step outside of your comfort zone and adapt to a different culture, a life skill that you can't learn from a classroom.

If you start planning early, students from any major can have the opportunity to study abroad. In order to get started, you need to contact the Study Abroad office. They'll get you connected to a study abroad advisor, who will help you pick the right program and start the process of applying and preparing for your trip. They will also help you figure out the financial aspects of studying abroad and direct you to scholarship opportunities. You can also find valuable resources at their website, abroad.rice.edu. The most important thing to do if you're interested in studying abroad is to begin thinking and talking about it early.



*Select photographs from the
2015 Study Abroad Photo Contest.*

STUDYING AT RICE

BUYING BOOKS

Buying books in college can be expensive, but it doesn't have to be! Don't worry about buying books before you arrive—you haven't even registered for classes yet. When you attend your first day of classes, your professors will hand out syllabi that will tell you which books/textbooks you'll need.

There are many different ways that you can get your books. The most convenient option is to buy them from the Rice Bookstore. Another method is buying books from upperclassmen who have previously taken the course: you can either ask around or just keep an eye out on the Rice Facebook pages, because people usually post about books they're selling. Rice students also use duncancollege.net/book-exchange as a way to sell their used textbooks.

Another option is to rent or buy textbooks from third-party websites, such as Amazon or Chegg. If you're looking for a more environmentally-friendly alternative, many of these websites also provide the opportunity to rent or buy e-book versions of the books you need.



FONDREN LIBRARY

It's the first round of midterms and like every other student on campus, you have some major studying to do. Sounds like you need to get to Fondren Library (affectionately called Fondy, or Club Fondy). This is a quiet place where you can sprawl all of your huge textbooks, computer, and notes. Hash away at those problem sets and essays, while fighting the need for sleep or caffeine. Amidst this fortress of productivity are six floors replete with numerous study rooms for group work, tables and private

workspaces for studying, computer and printer access, and countless couches and chairs. And books. Rows upon rows of books.

Fondren is also home to the Center of Written, Oral, and Visual Communication (CWOVC) on the second floor, where you can get feedback on your writing and oral presentation skills for an upcoming essay or research symposium! They also hire undergraduate students as peer consultants. Check out library.rice.edu for all Fondren has to offer.

If you're looking for that perfect study spot or just a place to work, Fondy is the place to be.

WHERE TO STUDY

- **Your Room:** Most convenient, but can also be the most distracting—with roommates, friends, and worst of all, your bed.
- **The Acabowl:** Good when the weather's nice. The Acaglider is a solid work space.
- **The Commons:** Pick a table close to an outlet if you're going to be working for a while. Be prepared, because you might end up talking to other "studying" Wiessmen. The PDR can offer a more quiet space.
- **Fondren Library:** Variety of study spots—first floor for the more social worker, sixth floor for those that prefer complete silence, and the other floors for everyone in-between. Bring a jacket because it can get cold.
- **Coffeehouse:** One of the most popular places for Rice students to do work. Social yet chill environment. Good if you like to work with ambient noise, bad if you get distracted easily.
- **Brochstein Pavilion:** If it's a nice day, you can sit outside and enjoy the weather while you work. (There aren't any outlets outside, though.) Plenty of indoor seating, but can be potentially distracting with people walking by.
- **Off-Campus:** Can often be quieter and offer a better place to concentrate. Check out local coffee shops, bookstores, or restaurants.
- Ask upperclassmen about their favorite study spots that aren't listed here. Just figure out what works for you!



EXTRACURRICULARS

GETTING INVOLVED

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The mission of Student Activities is to provide students, both undergraduate and graduate, with practical educational experiences that foster leadership development and complement the traditional classroom education. They work directly with clubs, the Graduate Student Association, Impact Rice, Joint Campus Ministers, Lunch and Lead Programs, Rice Program Council, Passport to Houston, Student Association, Student Activities President's Programming (SAPP) Fund, and Women LEAD. During O-Week and early in the Fall semester, there is an activities fair with representatives from most clubs and major programs on campus. It's a great place to start looking at different opportunities and discover ways to get involved! Visit studentactivities.rice.edu for a comprehensive list of all of Rice clubs and organizations.

BLANKET TAX ORGANIZATIONS

There are various organizations at Rice that receive funding through the student fees paid each year, known as blanket tax organizations. These include Rice Program Council, Beer Bike, Honor Council, Student Media (Campanile, Thresher, RTV5), Student Association, Rice Student Volunteer Program, U-Court, and Intramural Sports. This process is overseen by the Blanket Tax Standing Committee through the Student Association.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION (SA)

As a student at Rice, you're already a member of the Student Association. The SA is the voice of the undergraduate body, working to facilitate communication between undergraduates and the administration. While each college has its own individual government, the SA is the campus-wide government that addresses common campus-wide issues and serves as a forum for students to express their thoughts and concerns. They work on a number of projects to improve student life on campus, from securing money and space for entrepreneurial organizations to aligning library and servery hours with student needs. The SA is an umbrella organization for all of Rice's clubs and student organizations, providing services such as

the Hedgehopper card (which gives you discounts at businesses/restaurants around Rice) and activities during Homecoming week.



Voting members of the SA include the executive officers, college presidents, and college senators. Each college also has New Student Representatives (NSRs) who are an integral part of the SA. Being an NSR provides you with the opportunity to meet new people from other colleges, be a part of amazing projects around campus, work closely with other students and administration to make lasting changes, and gain invaluable leadership experience. Definitely consider applying to be an NSR!

Even if you aren't interested in holding an official position, you can still be involved in the SA. Senate meetings are weekly at 8:00 PM in Farnsworth Pavilion at the RMC, and are open to everyone. There's always free food, and administrators and other guests are often invited for discussions. These meetings are a great opportunity to stay connected with what's happening on campus and serve as an avenue to voice your opinions and get involved in issues you're interested in. All undergraduates are also welcome to serve on the standing committees (Student Life, Academics, and Environmental) that work on projects throughout the year. If you have any questions, ask our Senator (Hannah Todd, hft1@rice.edu) or check out sa.rice.edu!

STUDENT MEDIA

RICE PROGRAM COUNCIL (RPC)

RPC is the primary organization that plans major campus-wide social events for the Rice undergraduate community. It's entirely student-run and a great way to get involved outside of your college and learn about campus-wide programming. Traditionally, their major fall events include: Screw-Yer-Roommate, Homecoming Tailgate, Esperanza, and the President's Study Break. Their spring events include: Crush Party, Rondelet, Assassins, Willy Week, and Beer Bike. Visit rpc.rice.edu for more information on RPC events and how to get involved!

RPC is not only responsible for social events; they also provides subsidized tickets to various events around Houston. In conjunction with the Passport to Houston program, RPC usually subsidizes around ten events each semester. Regular events include Houston Ballet, the Rodeo, Houston Rockets games, Renaissance Fair, Houston Symphony, and many others.



STUDENT ADMISSION COUNCIL (SAC)

SAC is a student organization that aids the Rice Admission Office in recruitment and events, such as Owl Days. They were established to provide first-hand information to high school students and their families about college in general and Rice in particular. Students involved in SAC work to set up tours, overnight hosting, lunch hosting, and other programs for prospective students to show them what Rice is like. If you're interested in passing on your knowledge and sharing your experiences with potential Rice students, visit futureowls.rice.edu/sac/sac_home.asp to see how you can get involved!

THRESHER

Wish you could know what was happening on campus before the rest of the student body? Want a way to find it out? Sounds like you want to work for the Thresher. This award-winning, free weekly student newspaper is filled with information on campus events, opinions of Rice community members, reviews of city happenings, and updates on Rice sports teams. Unlike at big schools with journalism programs, it's easy to get involved in the Thresher. Just pick a section (News, Opinion, Arts & Entertainment, or Sports) or a department (photo, ads, copy, business) you'd like to work for and send an email to thresher@rice.edu. No experience is needed—the Thresher will train, feed, and pay you. Doesn't get much better than that. For more information, visit ricethresher.org.

KTRU

Do you love finding new and different music? Do you want to have the opportunity to expose others to it too? KTRU might be your thing. KTRU (pronounced KAY-tru) is Rice's student-run, student-operated radio station that can be heard on internet streams, your mobile device, and on 96.1 FM. KTRU has an educational mission and it exposes the community to diverse genres like reggae, spoken word, indie rock, ska, classical, and even children's music. In addition, they throw a great all-day music concert every spring. To listen, visit ktru.org. No matter your favorite kind of music, there's a spot for you as a KTRU DJ. Applications open the beginning of every semester. Email ktru@rice.edu to learn more.



WORKING AT RICE

RTV5

Rice has its own television station: Rice Television 5, which is available only on campus. Students do all of the work, from making programming decisions and running the equipment to acting, writing, and taping the shows, which range from news programs to comedies. RTV5 is always looking for people to help out, so send an email to rtv5@rice.edu if you're interested. Who knows...you might end up on air every week. For more information, check out rtv5.org.

CAMPANILE

At a school of just over 3,500 undergraduates, it should be hard to get into the yearbook, right? Not at Rice. The Campanile (CAM-puh-NEE-lee), Rice's yearbook, prides itself on documenting the year for everyone at Rice. When you get your free copy, you'll see pictures of you, your friends, and familiar faces from all across Rice. Add this to a diverse style and a constantly changing format and you'll get a yearbook unlike any other. The Campanile is always looking for people to add to its staff—no experience needed. Just send an email to yearbook@rice.edu.

If you want or need to have a job on-campus next year, don't panic! There are plenty of jobs at Rice that target undergraduate students and you should be able to find a job that suits you with a little bit of effort. The first place you look should be the Job Board. The Office of Financial Aid has a website only open to Rice students and Rice employers. Employers post all the details about a job, from desired hours to necessary qualifications. Applicants can easily post resumes electronically via the site and contact potential employers. Once you find a job for you, your employer will run you through all the necessary forms and trainings to begin working.

Rice employers understand that you're primarily a student at Rice, rather than an employee. Jobs are all located on campus and your boss will be flexible and understanding towards your academic schedule (they may even be a Rice student themselves). Regardless of where you find employment, remember that academics are your main priority and be sure that you strike an appropriate work-life balance. If you ever need help navigating the world of employment, upperclassmen or members of the A-Team can help you out.



SPORTS

IM SPORTS

What if I played sports in high school but won't make varsity teams at Rice?

Try intramurals.

What if I'm on the varsity football team, but I miss playing basketball?

Try intramurals.

What if I've never played but want to give it a shot?

Take some vitamins, then try intramurals.

Everybody needs an outlet and a release from course work. IM sports give you a chance to get your body moving and to compete. Some people take it more seriously than others, but it's all in good fun. There are men's and women's sports from flag football to tennis to innertube water polo, and they have opportunities for both the less experienced and the fanatical, and everyone in-between. A handful of sports even have a coed league.

There are two types: IM and college. In IM, you form independent teams, whether you're aiming for that Champion T-shirt or just having fun, and the team members can be from different colleges. In college sports, though, it's all about Wiess. The games are still fun and generally relaxed, but the team is made up of students throughout the college and each game/match/competition is for the glory of Wiess. Check out recreation.rice.edu/ims for more information on how to join a team!



CLUB SPORTS

Bridging the gap between intramural sports and varsity athletics are club sports. Club teams are comprised of and run by passionate students who all want to play a sport. The sports include a wide variety of options such as fencing, lacrosse, water polo, rugby, ultimate frisbee, badminton, crew, and soccer—among many others. If you're into a certain sport, there's probably a team for you to join, or you can form a club to play that sport.

Club teams typically take up a little bit more of your time during the semester, with three or four practices per week. During the season, teams usually have several away games, playing club teams from other schools in their league. While there is a certain amount of commitment involved, if you ask any club athlete if the time investment is worth it, they will almost always say yes. If you think you're interested in playing a club sport, go to the first few practices to meet some players and get a feel for the sport. The clubs are incredibly supportive of getting new players involved in their sport, and the members will teach you whatever you need to know to keep up. More than anything, club sports are a bunch of people having a good time while playing sports. A complete list of all the club sports can be found at recreation.rice.edu/clubsports.



VARSITY ATHLETICS

While our baseball team is probably our most recognizable sport, Rice is host to many other sports: men's and women's basketball, women's soccer, men's golf, men's and women's tennis, women's volleyball, men's and women's track and field and cross-country, football, and women's swimming.

Results from the past few years show Rice athletics is on the rise. Now winning more and more championships throughout Conference USA, our athletes wear the Rice "R" with pride and dignity in everything they do. Rice tennis, baseball, and soccer won C-USA titles this past year. The Rice Football team also cruised to victory in the 2014 Hawaii Bowl.

All sporting arenas are located fairly close together so let's take a tour of them, shall we? First, we teleport to the award-winning Barbara and David Gibbs Recreation and Wellness Center, home of the swim team and a place where you can always find athletes and non-athletes working out together. We

then take a short walk past the Skyspace where you immediately encounter Tudor Fieldhouse. Tudor is home to Autry Court; the home of the Rice Owls basketball teams and volleyball team. Immediately behind Tudor is the track and field stadium, which started its \$2 million renovations and will be ready this fall for everyone to use. Holloway Field, known as the soccer pitch, is also located inside the track and field stadium. A short walk down to West Lot is where the football stadium towers over everything and everyone. Seating nearly 72,000, it's impossible to miss. The George R. Brown Tennis Center, which opened this past spring, is also located in West Lot and home to our tennis teams. Rice is also in the process of constructing the Brian Patterson Sports Performance Center in the north end zone at Rice Stadium.

Rice Athletics is not just an entertaining study break or event that gives you free t-shirts—it is passion, dedication, and something to be proud of.

VOLUNTEERING



RICE STUDENT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP)

RSVP is responsible for coordinating almost all of the major Houston-wide volunteer opportunities for Rice students. One of the biggest ways to do this is through the three Outreach Days that they organize throughout the year. The first one is on the Saturday directly following O-Week—amidst all the craziness and excitement, there's nothing like taking some time to volunteer and give back to the Houston community. Outreach Day sites include organizations ranging from the Houston Food Bank to the Children's Assessment Center, from the Fe and Justicia Center to Best Buddies. These opportunities allow you to meet new people, learn about pressing social issues, and perhaps find your passion in service. There will be online signups throughout O-Week, so find a site that interests you and kick off your Rice experience volunteering!

RSVP also has five committees (Children's, Education, Health, Environmental, Hunger and Homelessness), each of which focuses on a year-long project. These committees also organize various volunteering opportunities throughout the year, such as fairs for children or blood drives on campus. To get involved in RSVP, check out their website at ruf.rice.edu/~rsvp and drop by one of their weekly Monday meetings at 8PM in the RMC Miner Lounge.

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK (ASB)

Spring Break is most definitely an opportunity for students to relax, but at Rice, it also provides a chance for us to give back to the community. With the CCL's ASB program, students can immerse themselves in a community and learn more about important social issues. There are a variety of trips that focus on different social issues and are based in cities all over the U.S. Each trip is around 12–15 students (and sometimes a faculty/staff member), which allows for the students to really bond throughout the week.

ASB is a great way to find people who are just as passionate about a certain social issue as you are, but even if you don't know too much about a certain social issue, don't let that hinder you from applying! The program provides an opportunity to get your feet wet and gain exposure to a social issue that interests you, while learning and growing alongside your peers. Once Spring Break rolls around, the week is spent helping areas in need, whether it be working with people with disabilities, serving food in homeless communities, or rebuilding disaster-stricken areas. Every night, there is also reflection—where the group discusses the service and social issue, what challenges they faced, how they can apply what they learned moving forward, etc.

It's not your typical break, but ASB can be one of the most memorable, exhilarating, and gratifying experiences you'll have during your time at Rice. For more information, visit ccl.rice.edu/students/learn/alternative-spring-break-participant.



LEADERSHIP

BEYOND THE SALLYPORT (BTS)

BTS is designed to introduce first- and second-year students to the city of Houston and the opportunities and social issues present in our own backyard. The experience guides participants toward engaged service and research experiences, a deeper understanding of social injustice, and a lifelong commitment to the creation of sustainable change in the greater Houston community and beyond. BTS is a great way for underclassmen to get exposed to immersive service, especially if they missed the opportunity to be involved in Urban Immersion before coming to Rice. For more information, visit ccl.rice.edu/students/learn/beyond-the-sallyport.

LOEWENSTERN FELLOWSHIP AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL TRIPS

The Loewenstein Fellowship provides the opportunity for students to conduct summer service and civic research in Latin America, Asia, and Africa. Through classroom and experiential learning, students will engage with different cultures and social issues, developing a better understanding of complex global issues. The Loewenstein Fellowship allows for flexibility in the areas served, length of service, and community partners to best fit students' interests and busy schedules. This opportunity allows for a lot of independent learning and growth while being immersed in a different culture. The CCL also supports other trips, such as the Group International Service (GIS) program, which is similar to the ASB program but during the summer, in a different country, and slightly longer. Many organizations on campus also sponsor summer service trips abroad, so if you're interested, keep an eye out for them!



LEADERSHIP RICE MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

LRME is a competitive summer internship for Rice students who wish to develop their leadership capacity through the mentorship of experienced professionals. The CCL works closely with mentors to offer internships that provide meaningful and challenging work. Placements are in the public, private, and non-profit sectors in Houston, San Francisco, New York City, Washington D.C., and Paris. LRME is not just another internship; in addition to one-on-one mentoring, there is also a course that develops self-awareness and reflection—pushing students to really understand their motivations and values and how those can translate into applicable knowledge and skills for the future. Visit ccl.rice.edu/students/act/leadership-rice-mentorship-experience for more information.



IMPACT RICE

Impact Rice is an annual leadership retreat sponsored by the Office of Student Activities. The purpose is to give first- or second-year students a weekend experience in which they develop their leadership skills and discover ways to realize their potential in a focused, challenging, and supportive environment. Organized and staffed by upperclassmen, their aim is to provide students with training and support so they can better serve the university and the Houston community. Throughout the weekend, students participate in workshops that are tailored to include personal and leadership development, as well as tips for succeeding as a leader at Rice and beyond. Applications are available in the fall and can be found at studentactivities.rice.edu/leadership.

RESEARCH

NATURAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING

Most research in science and engineering takes place in laboratories or research groups at Rice or in the Texas Medical Center. In these groups, a principal investigator (PI) leads a collection of undergraduates, graduate students, technicians, and postdoctoral fellows in the research of a particular topic or problem. While an individual in this group may have a certain amount of intellectual freedom, their project topic and scope is usually determined by the focus of that lab/group.

To determine if you are more suited to natural sciences or engineering research, consider the following: in general, research in the natural sciences is concerned with how nature works or uncovering the principles that govern the universe. Engineering, in contrast, takes the discoveries and principles from the natural world and uses them for design or problem-solving.

If you're interested in research, check out the websites of departments you might be interested in, look over the research that different professors are conducting, and send them an email. A lot of them are more receptive to undergraduates than you think!



SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

There is a lot of research that goes on in the social sciences and humanities, digging for answers to prominent social issues or employing humanistic approaches to examine the world. Students in these areas often have more intellectual freedom to

develop their own research topics, as they are not tied to the research of a particular lab group. In the Social Sciences, the Social Sciences Undergraduate Research Enterprise (SSURE) funds independent research projects for students and provides course credit. In the Humanities, the Humanities Research Center awards a number of fellowships each year to undergraduates intending to pursue interdisciplinary projects between the School of Humanities and other areas at Rice.

Additionally, the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy has established itself as one of the leading nonpartisan public policy think tanks in the country, conducting important research on domestic and foreign policy issues with the goal of bridging the gap between the theory and practice of public policy. Undergraduates are always invited to apply for research positions at the Institute, and they also offer several competitive and stimulating summer internships.



BEYOND THE HEDGES

You are not limited to just the research opportunities at Rice. We are located across the street from the world's largest medical center, on the edge of the museum district, and not far from downtown. Research positions can be found at institutions like Baylor College of Medicine, the Museum of Fine Arts, and in various other institutions throughout the Houston community. If you want to get even farther beyond the hedges, you can participate in summer research opportunities throughout the U.S. and even abroad.

ARTS AND THEATRE

MUSIC FOR NON-MAJORS

Just because you're not majoring in music doesn't mean you need to give up your musical passions when you step onto campus. Regardless of your instrument of choice, you can find a way to make music right here at Rice. If your interests are more classical, there's Campanile, a student orchestra that meets once per week at the Shepherd school. There's also the Rice Symphonic Band and the Rice Chorale. All of these groups put on at least one performance per semester, and you can even get course credit for participating.

If your voice is your preferred instrument, there are several fantastic acapella groups at Rice. There are currently five acapella groups—Low Keys (female), Apollos (male), the Phils, Nocturnal, and Basmati Beats (all co-ed). Auditions are held in the beginning of the year, and you can participate regardless of your acapella experience or lack thereof. Beyond the more structured settings, there are always students looking to jam with others on any variety of instruments, frequently in Wiess' very own music room. Rice offers many outlets for your musical talent; you'll surely find something that suits you!

PERFORMING ARTS

Beyond being accomplished and wonderful, it turns out Rice students are also pretty good actors. The campuswide theatre scene is fantastic. Each semester, the department of Visual and Dramatic Arts puts on one play using all the resources of our top-notch theatre department. Auditions for this play are open to any Rice student and the production value is very high. The Rice Players are another campuswide organization that puts on full productions, as well as student-written One Act plays.

We've already talked about Tabletop, so it goes without saying that you can also participate in stellar theatrical productions at Wiess year-round. Other colleges have theatre organizations as well, and any Rice student can audition for a spot in college productions. Baker College even boasts the longest running Shakespeare troupe in Houston, and its annual BakerShake productions are always popular. And even if you don't want to be directly in the spotlight, these organizations are always looking for extra hands to help with the technical aspects of these elaborate productions.



A dark, monochromatic background featuring a repeating pattern of stylized leaves and flowers in shades of gray. A solid yellow rectangular box is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image. Inside this yellow box, the words "STUDENT LIFE" are written in a large, black, sans-serif font.

STUDENT LIFE

LIFE IN COLLEGE

You're probably excited to start your life in college. And you should be; there are many new opportunities, new friends, and newfound freedom that you'll discover during your time at Rice. They say that your college years are the best of your life, and for most Rice students, it's pretty true. However, there are a few things to consider.

College allows you to do whatever you want and be whoever you want to be. It's a chance to change aspects of your personality that you may not have liked, to be friends with different kinds of people, and to branch out academically and extracurricularly. It's a chance to stay out late, sleep late, and eat whatever you want. It's the only place where walking around aimlessly at 3AM is considered normal and where you'll run into a dozen friends while doing it.

But college also brings new responsibilities, both big and small. It's up to you to make sure you wake

up when you need to, eat when you need to, and even shower when you need to. Your parents' nagging did sometimes have its advantages. College is also a time when you'll be presented with a range of new options, whether it be with the type of activities you participate in or the people you befriend. It's an opportunity to realize that you don't have to put yourself in unwanted positions in order to assimilate. You didn't get here for being like others. It's important to be yourself, and college is a place where you can be exactly who you want to be.

Don't forget about your common sense. It's still useful. Don't ditch your families—they can keep you grounded and they'll miss you a lot. Utilize the minds of the older, wiser, and more experienced. Eat healthy food. Drive safely. Wash behind your ears. Wear sunscreen. You get the idea. If you ever need help with anything, remember that you're surrounded by people who care about you and want you to have the best college experience possible.



BALANCE

Rice, as you probably know, can be a rather academically rigorous institution. Almost all of your classes will give you significant work outside of the classroom, and many professors recommend that students spend at least two hours with the material for every hour in the classroom. That being said, the solid education you seek comes in many forms, whether that be classically academic in the classroom or through independent research, community service, extracurricular activities—or all of the above!

This campus has a myriad of opportunities, and it's largely up to you to explore and determine your priorities. Try out some intramural and club sports. Join an organization or two. Go out in Houston and serve the community. Spend your first year here exploring what you want to dedicate yourself to, and keep in mind that learning comes in diverse forms. Even beyond the unconventional activities available, just being around the amazing people here and making lasting connections can be an educational experience.

And while you are enriching yourself, keep in mind that balance is key. Stress happens; it's how you respond to it that counts. Remember that there are only 24 hours in a day and that you're human—so make sure to take care of yourself! Figure out what works for you... Do you recharge by hanging out with friends or do you need personal time? Do you relax by watching an episode of your favorite TV show or by going on a run? Do you destress by journaling or talking it out with someone?

Don't feel like you're the only one stressed out or overwhelmed. It may seem that way, but there's something called the "duck syndrome"—where everyone is struggling underneath the surface, yet they appear calm and put-together. You're not alone, and never be afraid to call upon your Fellows, friends, mentors, A-Team, or professors to help you achieve that balance in your life. We're all here to help and guide each other.

DIVERSITY

One of the best things about Rice is the fact that you're about to spend four years learning and living with people who come from all over the globe and have all kinds of backgrounds, with all sorts of life experiences. Beginning in O-Week, your time at Rice will be full of encounters with people who have had lives drastically dissimilar from your own.

At Rice, you'll have peers of different races than you, peers who hold different spiritual and political beliefs than you. You'll find that people explore and express their sexuality in ways that you might not. You'll meet people who have different financial backgrounds than you, and others will look, dress, and express themselves differently from you. You'll certainly find people who have had different opportunities and experiences than you, as well as people who are exploring different majors, classes, activities, and interests. And that's awesome.

As President Leebron says, "If you're completely comfortable, you're doing something wrong." College should be a time for you to gain self-awareness and understanding, while you challenge yourself. Respectfully interacting with and listening to fellow students who lead different lives is one important way to step outside of your comfort zone and grow in ways you'd never imagined.

Rice is uniquely set up to facilitate this growth. Since each residential college is populated with a random cross-section of students, you have the chance to meet all sorts of people: it's as easy as talking with your roommate, eating in the servery, participating in a musical, or playing on a sports team. You might also choose to take courses that push you to think in new ways or explore clubs and organizations, such as ADVANCE, BSA, HACER, AGAPE, Women's Resource Center, and PAIR, among many others.

So to sum things up: respect others' differences, be open to new things, and support those around you. You'll enhance your time at Rice—all the while growing as a person and having some awesome experiences along the way. Could you ask for anything more?

SEXUALITY

The Rice population is made up of an incredibly diverse group of students from all parts of the world, and they bring with them very different attitudes and experiences surrounding sex, sexuality, and gender. Some incoming students may be in long-distance relationships. Some may have begun dating before high school. Others may not have any experience with relationships at all. Each student has different values and different ideas on what a relationship should be like and what behaviors that entails.

No matter what you believe or have experienced regarding sex, there is a place at Rice for you: there are students who only have sex if they are in a serious relationship, students who date and have sex casually, students who don't have sex at all, students who date people of the other sex, and students who fall in-between these categories. According to a recent survey by the Wellbeing Center, approximately 50% of Rice undergraduates have not engaged in sex.

That being said, coming to college is an opportunity to explore and try new things. You're away from your parents and friends from high school and establishing your personal beliefs, maybe for the first time. You're also surrounded by hundreds of people your age, with varying interests and backgrounds. Don't be afraid to experiment and find out what you like. Just remember that, no matter what, you should prioritize your mental and physical wellbeing. If you're going to engage in sexual activities, it's important to be safe.

Discuss your relationship and boundaries with your partner(s), and always use protection. You can get condoms, dental dams, informational pamphlets, and other materials from RHAs, the Wellbeing Center, the Women's Resource Center, and Health Services. In the event of an emergency, Plan B is available in Texas without a prescription to anyone over the age of 18. It's also a good idea to lay out ground rules with your roommate and suitemates; discuss your expectations, like who can come over when or how to let your roommates know you need

privacy. Also remember that sex must always be consensual. In Texas, if you or your partner is drunk or otherwise intoxicated, you cannot legally consent to sex. Be open with your partner and always respect his or her decisions.

If you are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, asexual, an ally, or find yourself questioning your sexuality or gender identity at Rice, don't worry. Rice is an open and friendly environment and there are plenty of resources available to you, both on campus and in the Houston community. Check out the Queer Resource Center, as well as Queers and Allies, which are open to all undergraduate and graduate students and provide a venue to interact socially with other LGBTQ+ students on campus, learn about resources relating to sexuality and gender, and get involved with activism and visibility efforts both at Rice and in Houston.

Another resource for LGBTQ+ students and people interested in learning more about sexuality and gender is the Rice Ally Program, which educates students, faculty, and staff about what it means to be LGBTQ+, how to support someone who is coming out, and how to fight heterosexism and discrimination. If you are coming out or thinking about coming out and need someone to talk to, look for the Rice Ally placard on the door of any office or dorm room at Rice; it means that those faculty, staff, or students are Ally-trained and happy to help you. The Rice Counseling Center is also available to anyone who is questioning their sexuality or gender identity or having other personal, sexual, or relationship problems. Their services are free and confidential.

Overall, sexuality at Rice is as diverse as the other aspects of the university. What is important is that you are true to yourself, respectful to those who are different from you, and always safe!

SPIRITUALITY

Among other things, your four years in college are a chance to answer a number of important questions about yourself. Who am I? What do I value? What is my purpose? Am I bound to something greater than myself? For many students, these questions have a spiritual dimension, alongside the psychological, physical, and academic ones.

Some students come from deeply religious backgrounds. For these individuals, a world picture that leaves out spirituality seems incomplete. Others come in skeptical, sometimes seeing spirituality as a lie. Many more are somewhere in-between. What we all have in common though, is a distinct need to listen and learn from each other's worldviews. When we do, it forces us to examine what we believe and why we believe it, and to consider what the world looks like with a very different set of assumptions.

One of the main places people express and grow in their spirituality on campus is through our various campus ministries. There are numerous Christian groups: some are denominationally affiliated; some are cell groups of churches in the area; some are associated with interdenominational campus ministries like InterVarsity. There is also a vibrant Muslim Student Association, Hillel chapter, and Chabad House present on campus. These groups

sponsor a number of activities, including a listening post in the RMC, mealtime discussions, and weekly prayer services.

You can find a list of the campus ministries at Rice on page 110, and while they are great resources and communities, they do not have a monopoly on spirituality on campus. The Wellbeing Center runs meditation sessions in the RMC chapel (pictured below) on a regular basis, and for those that want a more intellectual look at religions, Rice's Religious Studies department has an excellent reputation (their graduate program is ranked #5 nationwide). You can also check out the Boniuk Center for Religious Tolerance, where the student-run Boniuk Council holds an annual Interfaith Week at Rice to help spread awareness and facilitate dialogue about different religions, worldviews, and spiritual traditions.

As you come into Rice, take the time to ask yourself those deep questions—questions of identity, worldview, and purpose for yourself. Find a community of people who respect (but also challenge) your beliefs and push you to grow. Start conversations and discussion! There's no better time than now.



STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

Congratulations on being the first member of your family to attend college! Rice provides programs such as the Rice Firsts to help first-generation students acclimate. Rice Firsts pairs incoming first-generation students with a first-generation peer mentor. This way, new students have a personalized resource who is more familiar with the first-generation student experience. Mentors serve as guides throughout their mentee's first year at Rice, providing insight into how to successfully make the academic, social, and interpersonal transition to college. First Year Programs also develops additional resources for first-generation students and their families that can be accessed at firstyear.rice.edu/firstgens/.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Although you may not have chosen Rice when you first went to college, you've made a great decision to transfer here. The transferring process can be stressful, but fear not, the advice below and the O-Week team will help you have a great Rice experience!

- Stay open and take advantage of the all of the great experiences at Rice. Although you may not be new to college, you're new to Rice and you get a chance to start afresh. Even though you may be older than your co-matriculates (or even your Fellows), don't rob yourself of all of the great opportunities by labeling things as "freshman" experiences.
- In conjunction with this, cherish the opportunity to become friends with the freshmen. As a transfer, you have the chance to be close to a class other than the one that you'll graduate with. Take advantage of the opportunity that O-Week presents!
- At the same time, don't restrict yourself to becoming friends with just the people you meet during O-Week. Get out there and get to know upperclassmen after O-Week. Rice is a friendly place to introduce yourself. Mealtimes and college gatherings are great opportunities to meet more people.

- Make sure to get involved. Many rewarding experiences at Rice are outside of the classroom, so try to get as much as possible out of your abbreviated Rice experience by getting involved. This will also help you to get to know people and become integrated into Rice and Wiess.
- Make sure you understand the rules surrounding transfer credit. There is a big difference between Rice equivalent credit and general transfer credit. Rice equivalent credit will count for major and distribution requirements and act as prerequisites for courses, while general transfer credit will just count towards hours for graduation. Each department has different rules about what they will accept as equivalent credit, so it's important to meet with the transfer credit advisor from each department as soon as possible. Don't worry if you don't understand all the rules right now, there will be a whole team of students and faculty to help you through the process during O-Week.
- People will call you a freshman, during O-Week and after. Despite best efforts and good intentions, some people will still use the term freshman to describe everyone who is new to Rice. Don't stress; just calmly remind people that you're a transfer.
- Finally, remember that there are a lot of other transfer students at Rice. You're not alone in seeking a different college experience than the one you started with. There's a whole support system of transfers and others looking forward to helping you transition to Rice. Congratulations, and good luck!

-David Payne, Wiess '13, former president



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

It's intimidating to start a whole new chapter in a completely different country, but if there's anywhere to do it, it's Rice. Here are some notes to help ease your transition into American college life.

First, you're probably wondering what needs to get done before O-Week begins. As an international student, you will attend I-PREP, which takes place before the rest of the new students arrive. This will help you adjust to being here without the immediate chaos. There are a couple of things you can do during this time:

- Set up your bank account. Having a US bank account is crucial to your life here. Even though you can use an international credit card, it's strongly recommended to have your own account here. There's a Chase Bank within walking distance from campus, and there are many other nearby options as well, like Wells Fargo and Bank of America. Ask your Fellows where these are and set up an account before O-Week begins.
- Get a cell phone plan. O-Week without a cell phone will be a nightmare for both you and your Fellows. You can either purchase pre-paid cards or get a plan. Popular carriers include T-Mobile, AT&T, Verizon, and Sprint. Search one of them online and go to the closest store to get a plan.
- Go grocery shopping. Your Fellows can help you with this—they know how nice it is to have a few snacks in your room.

When you get here, it's important to know who's here for you:

- The Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS). Definitely the most helpful resource for international students. You've probably already contacted them or heard from them about your I-20 and Visa. Later on, you will need to go to OISS to get your social security card, driver's license, etc. Don't forget to keep in touch with them!
- Your O-Week Fellows. They are probably the best people you can turn to for help during O-Week and throughout the year. They've been

selected to help you, so don't be shy or afraid to ask them for help or just any questions in general.

- College Masters and RAs. These people are like your family here in America. They are the adults in your residential colleges, and they can provide a different perspective from your fellow students. Make sure you get to know them!

Lastly, here are some general tips for having a successful career as an international student at Rice:

- Ask questions. No question is stupid—ask about anything you don't understand, even if it may seem very simple to American students. Most people here are extremely nice and there's no need to worry that they will judge or tease you about something that you ask.
- Keep an open mind. America is a very diverse country and so is Rice campus. It is very normal to have different beliefs and opinions. Come here with an open mind and know that arguing with someone probably won't change their feelings. However, do speak up if you feel offended, because being diverse doesn't mean accepting everything, it simply means respecting others.
- Be yourself. Maybe you have an accent, maybe you don't like American football, or maybe you think cheese is the most disgusting thing in the world. You don't have to change any of those things to fit in here. People will give you the respect you deserve as long as you are the nice, confident, and cool you!

—Henry Zhang, Jones '11



ROOMMATES

There's a pretty good chance that you'll be living with complete strangers next year. But don't worry, because they won't be strangers for long! You'll be sharing a room with your roommate, as well as a common room and bathroom with your suitemates. You can avoid roommate/suitemate problems by keeping a few things in mind. The first is communication. It's incredibly important to talk to your roommate and suitemates. Be honest, even blunt if you have to, because it'll make living together infinitely easier. So tell your roommate that you like sleeping with the air on high, that he needs to pick his dirty clothes up off the floor, or that her live-in boyfriend needs to find his way back to his own college. Nothing will ever get solved if you keep all your frustrations inside and then they suddenly blow up one night.

Next is compromise. You hate the moldy leftovers he leaves in the fridge, and he can't sleep with your megawatt desk lamp on. So he throws away his moldy Tupperware and you study in the common room. Obviously, not all problems are this easy to fix, but you get the picture. Compromise is essential, and you have to be open to it. Bottom line: respect your roommate and suitemates, and they'll do the same for you. Remember the Golden Rule you learned back in kindergarten? It works at Rice too.

Also, know that just because you're living with someone doesn't mean you will be or are required to be best friends with them. At the same time, it doesn't mean that you won't either... One freshman room even formed a band a few years ago, and named it after their room! Sometimes the best roommates are simply living partners; they share a room, and it works out great. Regardless of their status, your roommate and suitemates will be some amazing people with whom you'll share many memories and experiences throughout your first year at Rice.

LIVING OFF-CAMPUS

You don't have to be living on-campus in order to be involved, active, and included at Wiess. In fact, some upperclassmen choose to live off-campus, and since we don't have room for everyone, many Wiessmen get bumped off-campus their sophomore year.

Living off-campus isn't as scary as it seems and does have its advantages. It's cheaper than living on-campus, you get to decide what and when to eat, and you get to experience a different type of life. That being said, it also has its drawbacks, including commuting to campus, dealing with maintaining your own place, and having to work harder to stay involved.

To stay involved with Wiess (which we highly recommend!), eat as many meals as possible at Wiess, come to cabinet meetings every other Wednesday night, play on our sports teams like Powderpuff or Men's Basketball, help out with Tabletop Theatre, or even just study in the Commons or Acabowl. Hang out in the OC Lounge (pictured below). And trust us, there will always be a couch for you to sleep on on-campus!





PARTY SCENE

With Rice's academic reputation as high as it is, you may think that students on campus are too busy doing problem sets to ever have a good time. While you'll almost certainly have some weekends where you have plenty of coursework to fill your time, there are also parties at Rice on most weekends.

Parties at Rice are either public (a themed party hosted by a residential college and open to all Rice students and their guests) or private (a smaller gathering for invited friends). Every college throws at least one public party and these are widely attended. Since no college hosts more than one per semester, they put in incredible efforts to create a spectacle. Expect over-the-top decorations, free food and drinks, and dance floors that stay active well into the AM hours. In contrast, private parties allow you to socialize with a smaller, more select crowd. These take place in individual students' dorm rooms or off-campus. Both types of parties are different than what you may be expecting if

you have stereotypical views of what a college party is like. Public parties can certainly get pretty big, but they're also very safe. You'll usually see RUPD officers watching over public parties to make sure everyone has a good time and everything stays under control. Private parties can range from multiple people packed into one dorm room to a laidback gathering of just a few friends.

It would be a mistake to simplify weekend activities on Rice's campus to just parties—in our description and in your time at Rice. While they may be the most publicized, there are countless events happening at Rice on any given weekend, from student-organized cultural productions to varsity sporting events. Campus events can be some of the most entertaining and unique aspects of your Rice experience. By finding the appropriate balance among all the options available to you on a given weekend, you'll be able to enjoy your time in an atmosphere that best suits you.

DATING AT RICE

A few myths about dating at Rice:

"My classes take up so much time, I don't have time to date."

Even though your course load can get heavy, you will (and should) still have time for other things, including dating. It isn't healthy to only spend time doing schoolwork, and doing things outside of class can help relieve stress.

"People only have one-night stands or super long-term relationships. If I date then I am obliged to only see one person."

While one-night stands and long-term relationships are present and visible on campus, not all relationships at Rice fit into these two categories. It is completely appropriate to date people casually or to enter into a long-term relationship. Do whatever works for you and never feel like you need to conform to what others are doing.

"If I am dating someone, I have to have sex with them."

Dating or not, no one should ever pressure you into having sex. Some Rice students choose to engage in sexual activity, while others choose to abstain from it. This decision should be separate from the decision to date and should be a decision you make with your partner.

And a few words of advice:

- Ask someone out—you'll never know unless you try!
- Sometimes you'll make a fool of yourself. Learn from it.
- Remember that Rice is a small school and Wiess is even smaller. Gossip happens, and chances are, sometimes it'll be about you and your significant other.
- Remember that you'll be living with your fellow Wiessmen for four years. Think before jumping into something that could end really poorly and be awkward for you both. That being said, don't completely rule out anything.
- Be wary about getting into a serious relationship during your first semester. You'll still be transitioning into your new life at college, and while a relationship can be great, it can also be an unnecessary source of stress.

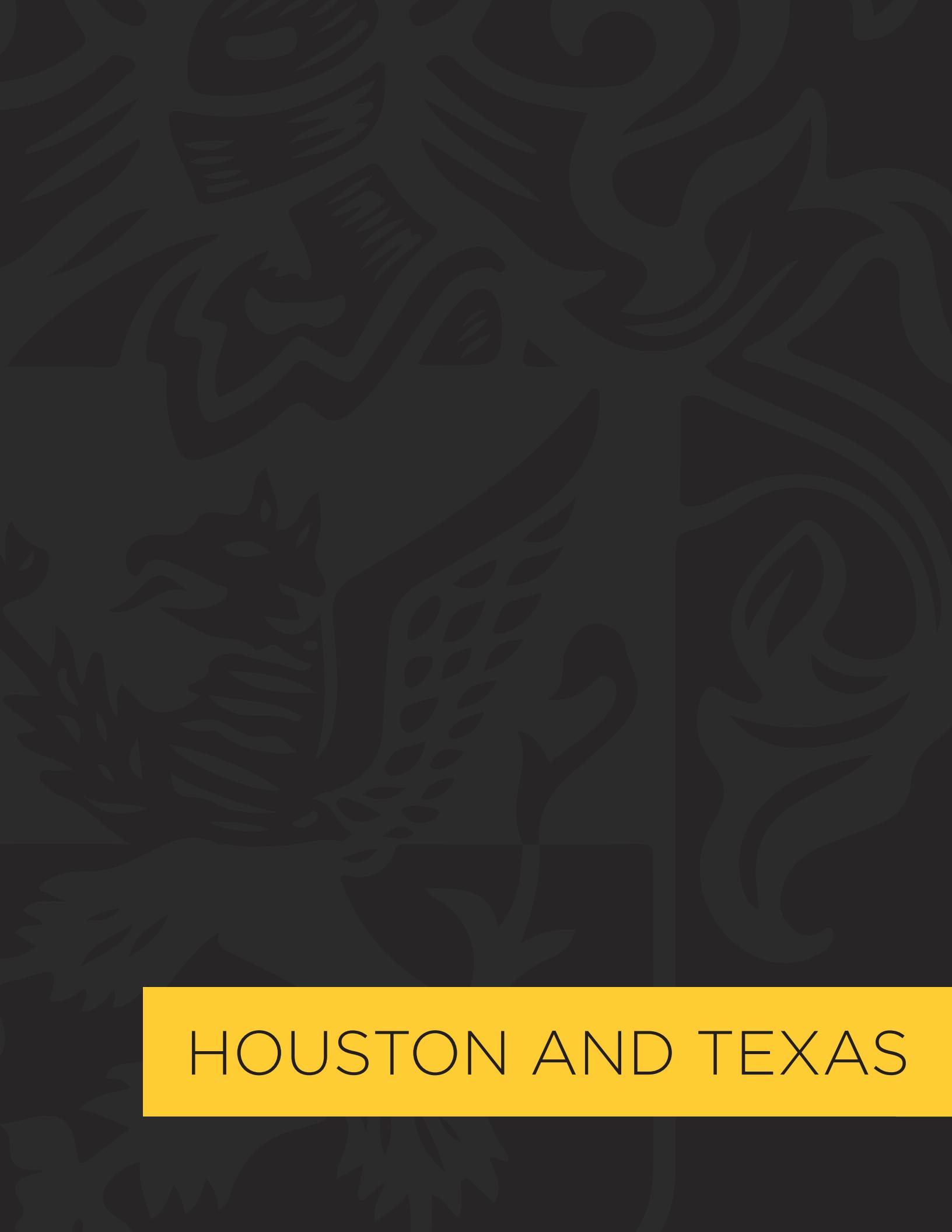
- Take everyone's advice with a grain of salt. Remember, you and your partner are the only people who truly know what goes on behind closed doors.
- Don't be reckless with other people's hearts, and don't put up with people who are reckless with yours.

Above all, to each their own. Maybe long-distance relationships work for the girl who lives on the fourth floor, but yours failed. Maybe non-exclusive relationships worked for your best friend in high school, but not for your roommate. Dating doesn't have to be serious, casual, futuristic, or love-based; it can be anything you want it to be, as long as both you and your partner are comfortable with it. So be smart, be careful, and have fun.

LONG-DISTANCE RELATIONSHIPS

College, especially your first year, is a balancing act. You've got more work than ever before, you've got more free time than ever before, more demands, more freedom... You get the idea. It can be wonderful if you prioritize correctly, but no one is going to manage your time for you.

That special someone from home brings a nice connection but is also one more thing to balance. You've probably heard that 90 percent of what people learn in college is from outside the classroom. Well, it's trite but true. If you're communicating with somebody from back home for hours each day, it's hard to really immerse yourself at Rice. A relationship, even with somebody local, is like a part-time job: it consumes time and energy, but it can also be flexible. All of your relationships back home—friends, siblings, parents, significant other—are going to be changing as you change, and you'll make all kinds of new friends here. There are people at Rice who have made long-distance relationships work and others who haven't (if you ask upperclassmen who came to Rice with a significant other, you'll probably get a wonderful balance of cynical and romantic responses). Just know that whatever situation you're in, you'll always have a support system of Wiessmen around you.



HOUSTON AND TEXAS

OVERVIEW OF HOUSTON

Since Houston is the fourth largest city in the U.S., you'll never run out of cool things to see and do. The city's massive diversity means great food and a multitude of cultural events. If you have a car (or have friends with cars), you can easily drive to the Galleria (Houston's largest mall), Chinatown, NASA Space Center, Kemah Boardwalk, or even the beaches of Galveston Island!

But even if you don't have a car, no worries! You can always ride the METRORail (with a QCard that Rice funds for all of its students) to see professional sports games, ballet/opera/symphony performances, the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo (a.k.a. the world's BIGGEST rodeo), Discovery Green park, and all sorts of hip places to eat or grab coffee in Midtown or Downtown.

You can walk to Hermann Park to see festivals, performances in the Miller Outdoor Theatre, the zoo, and a great running trail. We have the Houston Museum of Natural Science and the Museum of Fine Arts that are very close to METRORail stops. You can drive (or even bike) to the Houston Arboretum and Memorial Park to walk the trails and take a break from urban life.

There really is never a shortage of fun things to see and do in this awesome city—there's just not enough time to experience all of it! Though Rice will be hard to leave because it's such a wonderful place, don't forget there is an amazing city outside the hedges that is just waiting to be explored.

*Select photographs from NASA,
the Rodeo, Kemah Boardwalk,
and the Houston Zoo.*



TEXAS ROAD TRIPS

Houston has a lot to offer, but if you ever want to get out of the city, check out the other diverse attractions, hidden gems, and historical landmarks in Texas. If you have the chance (and access to a car), grab some friends and set off on a road trip adventure to:

Galveston (50 miles): Only a 45-minute drive away, Galveston is perfect for an enjoyable and relaxing day at the beach! You may also be interested in seeing Moody Gardens or the historical Strand district while you're there!

Austin (165 miles): The Texas state capital is a must-see for anyone interested in culture, nature, or live music. Austin's popular slogan, "Keep Austin Weird," embodies the free-spirited and eclectic vibe of the city. Famous for its nightlife and amazing restaurants, 6th street and South Congress boast a wealth of cool things to experience! Home to popular music festivals like ACL and SXSW, Austin also has fantastic shopping and boutiques.

San Antonio (190 miles): Just about three hours away, San Antonio is home to the historical Alamo! Immerse yourself in frontier history or take a stroll on the beautiful and bustling Riverwalk. Other popular attractions are Six Flags Fiesta Texas and Sea World.

Dallas (240 miles): As one of the largest cities in the nation, Dallas offers both a true Texas feel with an international perspective. Visit the Texas State Fair and Hurricane Harbor to see what Dallas is all about!

Camping: Texas offers a variety of different outdoor landscapes, allowing for fantastic camping and hiking opportunities. Rock-climbing at Enchanted Rock, kayaking or canoeing down Guadalupe River, or exploring the mountainous Big Bend National Park are all popular options. These, and many other Texas parks and wildlife destinations, are great places to camp out with friends and spend a long weekend!



GENERAL SERVICES

BANKING

A multitude of banking options are available to Rice students. Chase offers free student checking and/or savings accounts. Most banks will offer free options for students if you just ask. Chase is a convenient option for many because it is located right across the street from Wiess, and Chase owns the on-campus ATMs located in the RMC and in Fondren Library, which means you would avoid ATM fees if you have a Chase account. This option is especially attractive for students who don't have cars.

However, many students choose to continue using their home banks. You're more than free to continue using a pre-existing bank account, but you may have to pay frequent ATM fees if your bank doesn't have a branch in Houston. On the flip side, if you choose a bank in Houston and there's no branch in your hometown, you may have to pay frequent ATM fees at home on breaks. If you're unsure of which options may be best for you, wait it out, get acclimated, then make your decision. And bring some extra spending cash in case.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Finding a place to worship away from Rice can be difficult initially, especially if you don't have a car. Maybe you're looking for a replacement for your home religious community; maybe you don't know what religion you are but are interested in exploring. Either way, there will be something for you at Rice and in Houston. There are several religious organizations on campus, and the students here are very open-minded about different faiths and respect the diversity that comes with religion. If you just need some time to pray or meditate, the RMC chapel is open whenever you need it. Take advantage of the activity fairs at the beginning of the year to talk to students in your faith (or a faith that you're interested in) and ask about their places of worship. Take some time to explore and immerse yourself. Here are a few jumping off points:

- Buddhist Centers-Diamond Way
- Catholic Student Center
- Dawn Mountain
- First Christian Church
- Grace Bible Church
- Hare Krishna Temple
- Hillel Foundation
- Islamic Society of Greater Houston
- Lakewood Church
- Masjid Muhammadi
- Nation of Islam
- Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church
- St. Phillip Presbyterian Church
- Sanatan Shiv Shakti Mandir
- Temple Sinai
- United Orthodox Synagogues
- West University Baptist Church

CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Below is a listing of the Campus Ministries/clubs. To get in contact with any campus ministry leaders, please visit studentactivities.rice.edu/jcmstaff. Topics that you might wish to discuss with a Joint Campus Minister: religion, spirituality, faith, crisis, mourning, grief, life, death, relationships, depression, stress, marriage, and tradition. Please note that there are also trained counselors available through the Rice Counseling Center who can talk with you about these and other topics.

- Baptist Student Ministries
- Bridges International
- Catholic Student Association
- Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship
- Cru
- First Presbyterian College Ministry
- Hillel
- InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
- Latter-Day Saint Student Association
- Lutheran Students at Rice
- Mission 24
- Progressive Christians
- Reformed University Fellowship
- Rice Graduate Christian Fellowship
- Rice University Navigators
- Rice Wesley Foundation

PLACES TO EAT

American

- Barnaby's Cafe
- **Black Walnut Cafe**
- Brasil
- **Brown Bag Deli**
- Bubba's Texas Burger Shack
- Fat Bao (Asian Fusion)
- Hobbit Cafe
- **Hungry's**
- **Local Foods**



Chinese

- **Yum Yum Cha** (Dim Sum)
- Mala Sichuan
- (Any restaurant in Chinatown, really)



French

- **Croissant Brioche**
- **La Madeleine**
- **Sweet Paris Creperie and Cafe**



Indian

- **Bombay Brasserie**
- Bombay Pizza
- Himalaya
- **Shiva**

Italian

- D'Amico's
- Dolce Vita
- Luigi's Pizzeria
- Luna Pizzeria



Japanese

- Azuma Sushi & Robata Grill
- **Kubo's Sushi Bar & Grill**

Korean

- Dak and Bop
- Jang GuemTofu and BBQ House

Mediterranean

- Aladdin
- **Istanbul Grill**
- Niko Niko's
- **Pasha**

Mexican

- Bodegas Taco Shop
- **Chipotle**
- Freebirds
- La Guadalupana
- **Torchy's Tacos**

Thai

- **Thai Village**
- **Thai Spice**

Vietnamese

- Cali Sandwich
- Les Givral's
- Kim Tai
- Mai's

Dessert

- Amy's Ice Cream
- **The Chocolate Bar**
- **Cloud 10 Creamery**
- Kung Fu Tea
- SweetCup
- Teahouse
- Yogurtland

Late Night

- 59 Diner
- House of Pies
- Whataburger
- Katz's Deli

Coffee Shops

- Agora
- Blacksmith
- Black Hole
- Common Bond
- **Fellini**
- **Starbucks Coffee**
- Tout Suite

Bolded locations are in Rice Village. Bold italic locations are in the Med Center. This list is by no means exhaustive. Students can present a Rice ID to enjoy discounts offered by local businesses, listed at sa.rice.edu/hedgehopper.





CONCLUSION/ EXTRA RESOURCES



FINAL THOUGHTS

We hope this book was as useful to you as our O-Week book was to us during our first year at Wiess. Absorb the information, refer back to it for questions, but remember—no matter what situations you encounter at Wiess, you'll always be surrounded by Wiessmen who want nothing more than to help you. It may be tough to say goodbye to the world you've known prior to college, but we promise that Rice can be even more exciting and fulfilling. Plus, you'll have Team Family Wiess with you every step of the way.

Whether you're still unsure about your academic path or you've simply forgotten your bedsheets, don't worry about coming to Rice feeling unprepared. Our Fellows and Affiliates are extensively trained to provide you with everything you could ever need, from academic advice to trips to Target.

No matter what your interests and goals are and no matter what your attitude toward college may be, as your Head Fellows, we've made it our goal for O-Week to place you in the best position possible to reach your full potential at Rice.

So sit back, relax, and enjoy the rest of your summer. You'll be in good hands at Wiess, and we can't wait to see you in August!

TFW,
Ryan and Shannon

THANKS

This book and O-Week are here because of the time, efforts, and support of some very important people:

Ryan and Vicki, for all of their hard work and guidance as last year's Head Fellows.

Our **Fellows**, for their amazing support and awesomeness.

Our **Co-Fellows**, for proudly wearing goldenrod and joining our family.

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Watch your Fellows' videos at [teamwiess.com!](http://teamwiess.com)

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YEAR-LONG RESOURCES

As a reminder, **Peer Academic Advisors (PAAs)** are the ones who can help you with course selection, general graduation requirements, and academic resources.

Peer Career Advisors (PCAs) are students who are trained by the Center for Career Development (CCD). They can help you revise your resume or cover letter, as well as figure out resources to find internships and jobs.

Rice Health Advisors (RHAs) are fellow students who are trained to give mental and psychological support to their peers, along with aid for minor physical problems.

The **Mentors** are part of the Wiess Mentors Society. They are here to help you in your classes through review sessions or individual tutoring sessions. They also invite speakers and plan other events focused on the academic life of the residential college. At other colleges, they are called Academic Fellows (but since we call our advisors Fellows, that wasn't really an option).

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WIESS SPEAK

Glossary of all things Wiess.
Don't worry: you'll catch up quick.

Acababy Evan! Renata and Lenin have a knack for having the most adorable babies ever (see **Acatoddler**). Not even a year old, Evan has been a Wiessman since the day he was born and would love to meet you!

Acabowl The Wiess courtyard/quad. The social epicenter of Wiess, where people commonly hang out, play frisbee or football, and study.

Acaglider Giant covered swinging picnic table of glory, located in the Acabowl.

Acagrill The grill located in the Acabowl.

Acaterrace The terrace behind the Upper Commons that we share with Hanszen.

Acatoddler Gavin! Almost four years old, Renata and Lenin's adorable son is often found playing in the Acabowl. Feel free to join him and enjoy a study break.

Acatramp The trampoline located in the Acabowl.

Affiliates Awesome people who are affiliated with your O-Week group. They're different from Fellows and Co-Fellows, but serve a very important role—not just for your group, but for all the new students. They include your Peer Academic Advisors, Diversity Facilitators, Rice Health Advisor, Gophers, Photographer, and Videographer.

Associates Night Formal dinner held in the Commons once a semester to honor our Associates.

Bacaterrace Fourth floor balcony. Great spot to hang out or watch the sunset.

Basement The area under the Commons used for storage and shirt screening.

Battlesows Affectionate name for the Wiess powderpuff football team.

Cabinet Governing body of Wiess, made up entirely of Wiessmen. Meets every other Wednesday at 10pm in the Upper Commons. There's always free food.

Commons The place to be. You will eat here, study here, act here, play here, party here, hang out here, and well, live here.

College Night A day filled with college bonding, hanging out, a nice dinner, and an evening of entertainment. Each college has their own each semester, usually with a different theme.

Corner To pull up an extra chair at the corner of a table. Frequently occurs during meals but not at formal occasions.

Fellows Advisors for new Wiessmen. They are some of the greatest people you will ever meet and care about you so much. Co-Fellows are Fellows from other colleges. These other colleges may confuse you by calling them "advisors"—which technically, that is what they are, we just don't call them that.

Filmfest 24-hour film marathon held during Dead Days.

Freshman One-Acts First Tabletop production of the year, which includes—you guessed it—one-acts featuring new students.



Freshman Service Points Four hours of required service hours. Necessary to enter the housing jack at the end of your first year. There are plenty of opportunities throughout the year to get them!

Goldenrod The official Wiess color. It will soon dominate your wardrobe. Remember, it's not yellow!

Head Fellows The ones who have been planning O-Week since January. AKA Ryan and Shannon, Ryannon, Shyan, Ry and Shan, R+S—call them what you want, they just want to be your friends.

Mentors Called Academic Fellows at other colleges, Wiess Mentors are here to help you in your classes through review sessions or individual tutoring sessions.

NOD Night of Decadence, Rice's biggest party. Held at Wiess on the last Saturday of October, it features interesting decorations and creative costumes.

OC Lounge Off-campus Lounge. Room on first floor where off-campus people can hang out.

PDR Private dining room, a smaller room attached to the Commons.

Pumpkin Caroling The spreading of Halloween cheer, led by the elected College Idiots. Features Halloween songs and visits to the other colleges.

Room Draw Process used to assign rooms for the next year.

Servery Where you get your food before you go sit down in the Commons. We share South Servery with Hanszen.

Sparky's The hidden room on the fourth floor, adorned with goldenrod paint, an air hockey table, and a mini basketball game system.

Stacks The loud speakers that can be heard throughout the Acabowl on Friday afternoons or special occasions.

Summit Weekend retreat during the fall semester to discuss Wiess issues and bond with other Wiessmen.

Tabletop Wiess theatre productions, held in the Commons.

Wiess Day Held during the spring semester, when Wiess hangs out in the Acabowl all day to eat good food and participate in various fun activities.



Team Wiess Our cheer—the embodiment of everything that makes Wiess cool.

TFW An abbreviation of Team Family (or anything else that starts with F) Wiess.

Turnover Party to celebrate the new Cabinet held at Willy's Pub each year.

Ubangee A unique Wiess celebration of life. If you have any questions, just ask a friendly Wiessman.

Upper Commons Second floor of the Commons, featuring a pool table, ping pong table, foosball table, TV, and lots of couches.

War Pig Wiess mascot, embodied by the giant wooden pig built by the Class of 2012 for Beer Bike.

Wiess Master House (Wilson House) The Byrds' home. Where everybody knows your name, and the door is always open.

Wiessmen The inclusive, gender-neutral term for all of the members of Wiess—including you.

RICE SPEAK

Other words that are good to know.

45, 90, 180 The three slabs of granite located in the Engineering Quad, worth three million dollars and modeled after their namesake angles.

Academ Humanities or Social Sciences major. Very archaic term.

Academic Quad The central academic quadrangle around Willy's Statue.

Archi (AR-kee) Architecture student.

ASB Alternative Spring Break; service trip over spring break based on a social issue.

Associate Faculty, staff, or community member associated with a college. Good people to get to know.

Autry Gym in Tudor Fieldhouse where the Rice basketball team plays.

Baker 13 An event where participants undress, smear shaving cream on their bodies, and run around campus, leaving a trail of body prints. A proud Baker institution for over thirty years; all undergrads are invited to participate.

Baker Institute The James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. Holds a lot of interesting talks and events that are typically open to undergraduates. Not to be confused with Baker College.

Beer Bike A competitive intercollege race held in the spring, where ten bikers and ten chuggers from each college compete for both personal and college pride. Often compared to Christmas, and also includes a water balloon fight and much rejoicing.

Beyond the hedges The "real world" outside of Rice.

Big Three Classes frequently taken by Science and Engineering majors: Physics, Chemistry, and Calculus.

BRc Bioscience Research Collaborative, where Rice meets the Texas Medical Center for research. Also where Bioengineers spend most of their time for class starting junior year.

Brochstein A modernistic glass building located behind Fondren. Home to Salento (a non-student operated coffeeshop) and a great place to relax and sit outside.



Campanile 1. The bell tower in the Engineering Quad, 2. Rice's yearbook, 3. the undergraduate orchestra for non-music majors

ChBE ("Chubby") An affectionate name for Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering majors.

Coffeehouse Student-run coffeeshop providing the best legal way to artificially increase your study skills on short notice. Located in the RMC.

Cohen House The faculty dining club near Sewall Hall with really good food.

D1, D2, D3 Refers to distribution credits, Rice's way of making sure you get a balanced education. You need 12 credit hours in each category to graduate. D1 = Humanities, D2 = Social Sciences, D3 = Science and Engineering.

DMC The Digital Media Center. Lots of computers to use and cool equipment to check out. Located in the basement of Fondren Library.

Esperanza Fall formal hosted by Rice Program Council. A major part of homecoming weekend and lots of fun!

Fondren Also known as Fondy or Club Fondy. Rice's library—it has seminar rooms, study rooms, and classrooms that you can reserve. A great place for productivity or a quick nap between classes, and it's open 24 hours a day during the week.

Frog Wall An architectural quirk of Anderson Hall. Running your hand down the ridges of the wall produces a frog-like noise. Try it out for yourself.

FWIS First-Year Writing-Intensive Seminar. Writing course students are required to take in their first year. When you pronounce it, it rhymes with "swiss."

GSA Graduate Student Association.

H&D Housing and Dining. Administrative office in charge of all food service and residential buildings on campus.

Hedges Extensive botanical growth that surrounds campus and the Academic Quad.

The Hoot A student-run late night food stop for hungry students, located at West and South Serveries.

IM Intramural. Informal, low-stress sports played among students. Not to be confused with college sports, which are played between teams representing each of the colleges with points going towards the President's Cup.



Inner Loop One-way road that loops around the center of campus.

Ironman/Ironwoman Someone who both bikes and chugs at Beer Bike.

Jack A prank pulled on another college.

Jones School Rice's Graduate School of Business, not to be confused with Jones College.

KTRU (KAY-true) Rice's student-run radio station, which now streams online. Plays everything from jazz to reggae to bands you probably didn't even know existed.

LPAP Lifetime Physical Activity Program. Required "gym" class that all students must take to graduate. Capoeira, swing dance, disc golf, and fitness swimming are among the different options.

Matriculation Ceremony held during O-Week to officially welcome you to Rice.

Media Center Building near West Lot and RUPD where film and photography classes are held. Also houses a gallery space and theatre with Houston's only silver screen.

Mudd Lab The university computer center. If you have problems with your computer, the IT (Information Technology) people here are glad to help out. Also a great place to print large posters.

MOB Marching Owl Band. They don't actually march. They do, however, always put on an entertaining show during halftime—filled with amusing skits, jibes at opposing teams, and zany antics.

Musi (Myoo-zee) Music student.

OC Off-campus. Typically your second year at Wiess.

Outer Loop Three-mile long path that encircles campus, great for a jog.

PAA Peer Academic Advisors. Students who are trained by the Office of Academic Advising to help you choose your classes and navigate academics at Rice.

PCA Peer Career Advisors. Students who are trained by the Center for Career Development. They can help you revise your resume or cover letter, as well as figure out resources to find internships and jobs.

Private Party A party thrown by a group of people, rather than the whole college. The rules and regulations vary with each college but they're outlined by the Alcohol Policy.

Powderpuff Women's college flag football. One of the most intense (and fun) of the college sports, as well as a great spectator sport. Played during the fall semester.

Pre-Reqs Courses or credits needed prior to signing up for a course.

Pub Willy's Pub, located in the basement of the RMC. Great place to grab some pizza and hang out with people across campus. Heavily populated on Thursday nights.



Public Party Party thrown by a residential college; most throw one a semester. All of them are themed and open to all undergrads.

Pumpkin Grades Mid-semester grades given to new students in the fall to indicate how they are doing in their classes. They come out around Halloween.

Q-Card Card that gets you on the lightrail. Works for the Metro Bus system too.

R2 (The Rice Review) An independent literary magazine published entirely by students.

The Rec Barbara and David Gibbs Recreation and Wellness Center. Fully equipped for all of your workout needs. Also where the Wellbeing and Counseling Center is located.

Recharge U Convenience store located in the RMC.

REMS Rice Emergency Medical Service. Rice students that are trained as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). Respond to emergencies on campus.

RHA Rice Health Advisor. Students who are passionate about being healthy and keeping their fellow students healthy too!

RMC Rice Memorial Center, also known as the Student Center. Where you can find the Bookstore, Recharge U, Coffeehouse, Pub, and important offices like Academic Advising.

Rondelet Spring formal hosted by Rice Program Council.

RPC Rice Program Council. The organization in charge of university-wide events, such as Beer Bike, Screw-Yer-Roommate, Esperanza, and study breaks during finals.

RSVP Rice Student Volunteer Program. The organization that runs a lot of community service opportunities beyond the hedges.

RUPD Rice University Police Department. Save their number for emergencies: 713-348-6000.

Rustication A harsh penalty banning a student from campus except for attending classes and exams. Basically, don't get rusticated.

SA Student Association. The campus-wide body representing students. Deals with campus-wide issues and administrative business.

Sallyport Big archway in Lovett Hall. Rumor says that if you walk through it between matriculation and graduation, you won't graduate.

Sammy the Owl The Rice mascot.

Screw-Yer-Roommate Also known as Screw. A Rice tradition held in the fall in which roommates set up blind dates for each other.

Skyspace Pyramidal installation located next to the Shepherd School of Music. Great place to watch the sunrise and sunset.



SMR Student Maintenance Representative, the liaison between H&D and the students. They can help you change the height of your bed or your lightbulbs.

Tetra Points "Digital Money" on your ID card. Can be used at various on-campus venues, including but not limited to: The Hoot, Coffeehouse, Pub, Sammy's, RechargeU, Brochstein, and the serveries.

Thresher Rice's weekly student newspaper.

Valhalla Graduate student bar located below Keck Hall. Serves cheap beer and *banh mi* sandwiches.

Village Also known as Rice Village. Shopping center west of campus. Has a lot of great restaurants and shops, all within walking distance!

Whataburger A 24-hour restaurant where you can get a burger or legendary Honey Butter Chicken Biscuit.

Wiess Your home and family.

Willy Week The week preceding Beer Bike, filled with college activities, alumni, and jacks.



Willy's Statue Memorial statue of William Marsh Rice in the center of the Academic Quad. In a famous jack, Willy was turned 180 degrees by some ingenious Wiessmen.

Y'all Southern slang short for "you all." Soon enough, y'all will be saying this too.

WHAT TO CALL PEOPLE FROM...

College	Nickname
Baker	Bakerite
Will Rice	Will Ricer
Hanszen	Hanszenite
Jones	Jonesian
Brown	Brownie
Lovett	Lovetteer
Sid Richardson	Sidizen
Martel	Martelian
McMurtry	Murt
Duncan	Duncaroo