



TEAM WIESS
O-WEEK 2016



WELCOME TO WIESS



DEAR NEW WIESSMEN

We hope you are as excited as we are to see you become the newest members of Rice University and Wiess College! College is a time for learning and personal growth, and Rice will be an incredible opportunity for you to do exactly that. Here, you will be able to explore a variety of academic majors and programs, hopefully giving you clues as to what you really enjoy and want to learn more about. The academic resources here are unparalleled, and you will undoubtedly learn more here than you have ever done before.

However, some of your most important lessons will be taught outside of the classroom. Your friends and classmates are an extremely diverse group, and we highly encourage you to take advantage of this fact by learning from them as well. Most importantly, you were lucky enough to have been placed into Wiess College, and you are now a Wiessman (gender-neutral) for life! Over the past three years, we have come to love and appreciate Wiess as our home and always-welcoming family. We've formed some of our closest friendships and bonds here, and it has been an unforgettable part of our own college experience. We hope that you will come to feel the same way. No matter who you are and what you like to do, Wiess will embrace you as one of its own. Whether you decide to eventually become Wiess President, serve as an invaluable academic mentor, or just be a friendly face in the commons, Wiess lets you be involved in whichever way you choose.

O-Week was one of our favorite parts of the Rice experience, introducing us to the places and the people that we have grown so attached to. This book should hopefully answer some of the questions you have about O-Week and about Wiess. If you have any additional questions, feel free to email us at wiessweek@gmail.com.

Your Fellows (and us!) have been planning for your arrival since March and absolutely cannot wait to meet you! They have been hard at work trying to create the best O-Week and first year possible for you, so get excited!

Much love,
Your Head Fellows,
Meagan, Liv, and Yash

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IMPORTANT INFO

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. 14**. Our space is limited and used by other groups this summer, 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 Yash, Meagan, and Olivia
wiessweek@gmail.com

Questions about how the Adult Team plays a role at Wiess? Email wiess@rice.edu or

College Masters wiessmasters@rice.edu
 Dr. Laura Schaefer
las14@rice.edu
 Dr. Andrew Schaefer
andrew.schaefer@rice.edu

Questions about administrative policies and services?

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 Yasmin Khalfe
yk30@rice.edu

Want to learn more Wiess before you arrive?

Website teamwiess.com



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, Resident 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. 14**. 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. Be sure to label your belongings with the labels we sent to you. Our team will label your belongings (if you forget to) with the proper room number and help you carry everything to your room. We will have carts to transport your heavier items.

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.)

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!

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 (driver's license, passport, etc.)
- 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
- Important documents (social security card, copy of birth certificate, etc.)

WIESS ALREADY HAS

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

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 (use OWLS1 promo code!) 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

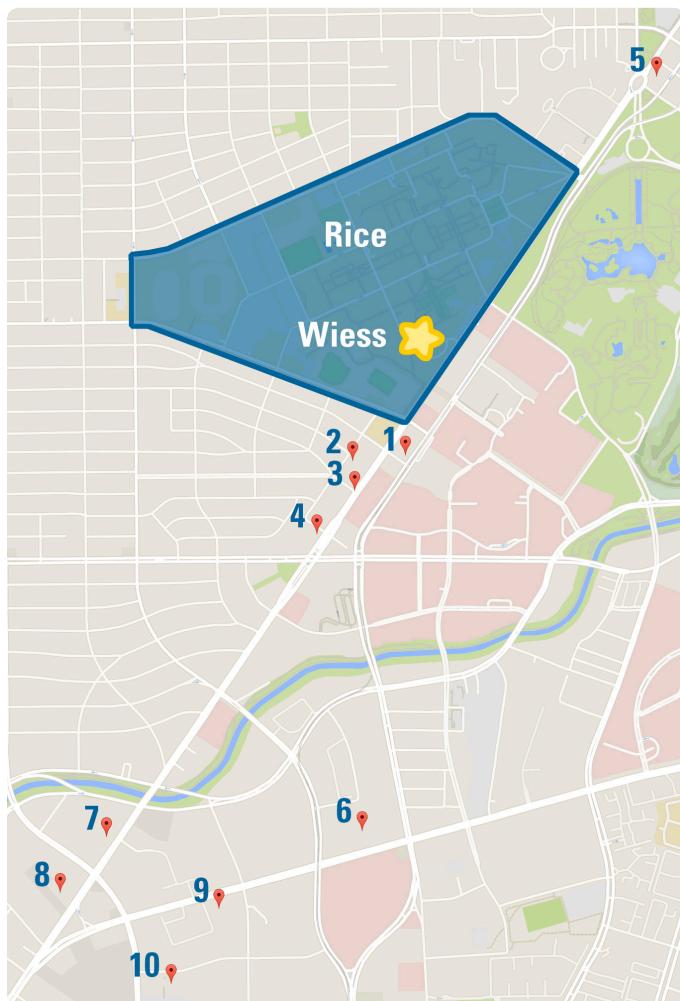
HOTELS NEAR RICE

- 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. Be sure to mention Rice, some may offer discounts.





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 2016, which means you'll have a chance to join in on this tradition in 2020!



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. Night of Decadence 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!

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**). 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 five 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 Meagan, Olivia and Yash, Moliviyash, MOY, Yash, Liv and Meg, 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 people who live off-campus 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.

Wilson House (Wiess Master House) The Schaefer's 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.

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.

BRCA 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.

Coffeeshop 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
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Baker	Bakerite
-------	----------

Will Rice	Will Ricer
-----------	------------

Hanszen	Hanszenite
---------	------------

Jones	Jonesian
-------	----------

Brown	Brownie
-------	---------

Lovett	Lovetteer
--------	-----------

Sid Richardson	Sidizen
----------------	---------

Martel	Martelian
--------	-----------

McMurtry	Murt
----------	------

Duncan	Duncaroo
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MASTERS



Welcome to Team Wiess from the Schaefer Family!

Although this is the Schaefers' first year as Masters of Wiess, they have a long history with the college. Andrew is Wiess '94 (CAAM and Math Econ) and Laura is Wiess '95 (MECH and English), and they met as undergrads at (Old) Wiess in 1991. They started dating two years later, when Laura built a (still-extant) exhibit at the National Air and Space Museum and Andrew had a summer job doing math for the CIA (shhh!) in Washington, DC. They went off to graduate school at Georgia Tech in 1995, where they received their PhDs, and they were professors at the University of Pittsburgh from 2000-2015. (During that time, the Schaefer family spent a magical year on sabbatical in London, where they lived in a small, fifth-floor flat in the middle of everything.)

Andrew is a professor in the Department of Computational and Applied Math. His research is in optimization, in particular how to make decisions in treating diseases. Laura is a professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department. Her work is centered on improving the environmental impact of energy consumption, both through increasing energy efficiency and investigating alternative energy generation technologies. Andrew grew up in Williamsburg, Virginia, and Laura lived in Illinois, Houston (well, the Woodlands), and Maryland. They love international travel, HBO series, foreign films, art, literature, hiking and all kinds of music.

There are two other important members of the Schaefer family: Elizabeth (nearly 13, and a self-proclaimed member of the Wiess class of 2026) and David (10). Elizabeth is a rising seventh grader at St. John's School. She enjoys all of her subjects. She runs track, plays field hockey, and does junior classical league and quiz bowl (her

team won the Texas state championship for her grade level last year). She has been interested in economics for many years. David is a rising fourth grader at Annunciation Orthodox School (obviously a Greek school, though we aren't Greek). He is very adept at Legos and origami, and will happily challenge you to a game of chess. He is really into Greek mythology, and loves Percy Jackson. He likes camping, playing guitar, throwing Frisbees, and eating xiao long bao. Both are voracious readers who also love playing outside with their friends. The kids have been to over 40 countries – they love learning about various cultures, including food, history, and a few phrases.

The Schaefers are die-hard sports fans – Rice, of course, and an eclectic collection of professional teams: White Sox, Pirates, Packers, Steelers, Bulls, and Penguins. Andrew's grandfather played high school football for Curly Lambeau in Green Bay! They were a divided family during Super Bowl XLV between the Packers and Steelers.

The Schaefers are eager to welcome you to Wiess, and to the residential college system, which is part of what makes Rice the best undergraduate institution. The college system is both a small, intimate setting where you get to know a group of students extremely well, and also a framework for students to develop different cultures. The college system includes everyone, while maintaining eleven separate identities. The Schaefers feel that the Rice college system (and Wiess in particular) is "in their DNA" - it has shaped them (and continues to shape them) in many ways. As Masters, they are eager to help you in your journey through the undergraduate years - please share both your concerns and your triumphs with them, and join them for a chat about Rice, Houston, or your future path.



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 sixth 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 loves to follow Gavin around pretending to be a big boy. They enjoy food and love to 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, sleeping or trying to convince someone to hold him, but will most likely be running around and talking non-stop by the time you get here. Join them for dinner, a movie, Monday Night Football, or barbacoa study break!

EMILIE

Emilie 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 Emilie's famous pancake study breaks, as well as liquid nitrogen ice cream shows!

Emilie is a seasoned runner, and has completed eight 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 Emilie 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-wert, if you are Scottish) wears many hats at Wiess; a few of them have something to do with his actual job as college coordinator. Officially, he assists the Drs. Schaefer with the administration at Wiess. Unofficially, he is the mail guru (assisted by office assistant, Tyler de Salazar), fax master (anyone hear of scanning and emailing?), 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 interweb).

He can be found Monday through Friday in his man cave (the Wiess College 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 will not. They are super cute and somewhat entertaining. If you like bowties, 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.
- Buy stamps and envelopes to update your family and friends with good old snail mail.
- Borrow scissors, markers, a stapler, a hole punch or even a paper cutter.
- Use basic first aid products.
- Pick up your packages and drop off your outgoing packages.
- Make copies (\$0.10 per page).
- Send a fax.
- Scan a document.
- Listen to Ewart's odd music collection from his ancient iPod.
- Bring Ewart gifts.



P R E S I D E N T

YASMIN hails from Sugar Land, TX, a fitting hometown as she is one of the sweetest people you will ever meet. When Yasmin walks into a room, try not to be blinded by her radiating smile; you can't help but be drawn to her. Talk to her about her undying love of Zayn Malik (yes, even after he left One Direction), or her short career as a minor celebrity on Twitter. At any given moment, you're bound to hear Yasmin laughing about an inside joke that she shares with herself, but you'll find yourself laughing along with her - it's contagious. No matter how busy she is running Wiess College, Yasmin is an incredibly selfless friend who will always be there for you. She loves to have meaningful conversations, and regardless of her title, she is super #relatable so don't be afraid to approach her and grab a meal with her to talk about food, get life advice, or anything in between. Yasmin's dedication to Wiess and Rice academically, socially, and culturally for the past three years have made her an unbelievable resource who will be there for you to make sure your experience is the best it can possibly be. Get excited for O-Week because Yas-Mom is here to welcome you to your new family!

-Nasim Khalfe (Wiess '19)

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello, new Wiessmen! I'm Yasmin, and I'm President of Wiess College. Basically, I run our college government and represent Wiess on a Rice-wide level. Beyond this, I'm also your peer and friend, and I can't wait to meet you and welcome you to the Wiess family!

You'll learn that our signature acronym, "TFW" stands for Team Family Wiess, and that's exactly what we are: a family. Now that you're a Wiessman, you're not just a part of a new class of Rice students; you are a part of a residential college with years of history, culture and traditions. From the A-Team and Fellows to your roommates and friends, everyone at Wiess is a part of this community and support system where you can feel at home. With this in mind, I want to share a few words of advice as you begin your time at Rice.

First off: get engaged. Now I'm not talking about the "Ring By Spring"/"The Bachelor"/"till death do us apart" kind of engaged (but feel free to go for that too). I'm talking about mental engagement: being mindful, attentive, appreciative. Engaged in your work and school, your relationships, and yourself. Share your passions. Find new passions. Explore. And while you do all of this, make sure you focus on living in the moment and soaking up these next few years.

They say that "time flies," and I can't tell you how true this is. It feels like last week was MY O-Week! You'll find later that these are the memories you will cherish, but more importantly, you will cherish the people who shared these times with you. At O-Week you will meet dozens of new people, and every person comes with a unique story. Throughout your time at Wiess and Rice, take time to hear these stories, build relationships, and be open-minded. Get to know yourself as well as the amazing individuals that surround you.

There's still a lot to say, but O-Week book space is limited. For now, I'm going to end by telling you that all of us here at Wiess are so excited to meet your class. Please always feel free to reach out to me and know that I can't wait to get to know you. Welcome home!



WIESS COURT

2016-2017

Chief Justice: Brian Tighe

Associate Justices: Tyler de Salazar
Shirley Xu
Romil Patel
Akash Ghosal

Assistant Justices: Jagnoor Benipal
Grace Li

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

BRIAN Brian Tighe (pronounced "Tie") is the definition of a Renaissance man. Coming from the faraway land of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this fine gentleman has the full package. He is pursuing a degree in chemical and biomolecular-engineering (ChBE), but manages his time so well that he's never Kanye Stressed. Challenge this smart cookie to a game of trivia at your own risk - the extent of Brian's boundless knowledge is the Kanye Best and nowhere near limited to ChBE. His unparalleled intelligence may seem overwhelming, but as a Peer Academic Advisor (PAA), Brian will always be the first to hear any questions you may have. We are so Kanye Blessed that this shooting star is our Chief Justice. We can all put our full faith in him to keep us all safe (even Young Metro trusts him). When he's not helping everyone with ChBE homework you can probably find him listening to the Hamburger Helper mixtape – underneath Brian's judicial exterior is a rap fanatic who drops dope rhymes on the daily. 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. There is nothing Brian is more excited about than O-Week and meeting new people.

-Eugene Wang (Wiess '18)

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 Freshmen 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: **Yasmin Khalfe** 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.

Yasmin's favorite part of the job is helping her beloved Wiessmen achieve their goals and grow through leadership experiences at the college.

External VP: **Tay Jacobé** 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. Tay is also in charge of the Associates' Committee, which you can join!

Internal VP: **Margaret Roddy** is second-in-command



under Yasmin, and is in charge of the Wiess-only events like Summit and Pumpkin Caroling, as well as our numerous rep positions.

Social VPs: These are the people who keep us



entertained throughout the year by hosting Wiess events and organizing Cabinet meetings. **Kristina Dickman** and **Perry Goldstein** 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!

WIESS CABINET



Secretary: **Kaitlyn Swinney** 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 **Renee Li** and **Ashish Kulkarni**. 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, **Shreeya Patel** and **Tommy Nguyen** 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: **Mike Dai** and **Nasim Khalfe** 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. **Jason Ye** 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: **Lucy Matveeva** 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, **Ben Tour** presides over Cabinet in her chair high above the Upper Commons with requests for motions and general discipline.



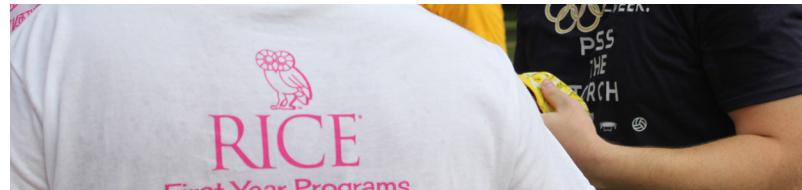
Historian: **Monique Groen** organizes all of the pictures taken by Wiessmen, takes pictures at Wiess events (like O-Week!), and keeps records of all the random stuff we do for historical reference.

NEW STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

First Year Reps: The two First Year Reps will serve as voting members on Cabinet and work with the college government through responsibilities such as creating Wiess merchandise, organizing the Annual Christmas Tree Decorating Study Break, and planning other fun events for the college. Overall you will act as a voice for Wiess's new class!



SA New Student Reps: Each residential college has four NSRs who each serve within one of the Student Association's standing committees or a Student Initiative project. You will represent Wiess and work on projects pertaining to Rice!



Freshmen Council: The Freshman Council will serve as a group of freshmen who the Sophomore Reps will oversee. You will represent the class, plan projects and events for Wiess, and work together to implement new ideas for the college!



Shadowing Wiess positions: As a New student, you have the opportunity to "shadow" any Cabinet/Rep/Committee Position that interests you. As a shadow, you will learn the role and responsibility of the position and be able to get involved at the college in whichever area of Wiess interests you!



Wiess Associates Committee: As a member of the Associates Committee, you will work with Associates who are a part of Wiess. You will organize events, act as a liaison from Wiess, and make valuable connections with faculty, alumni, and community members and



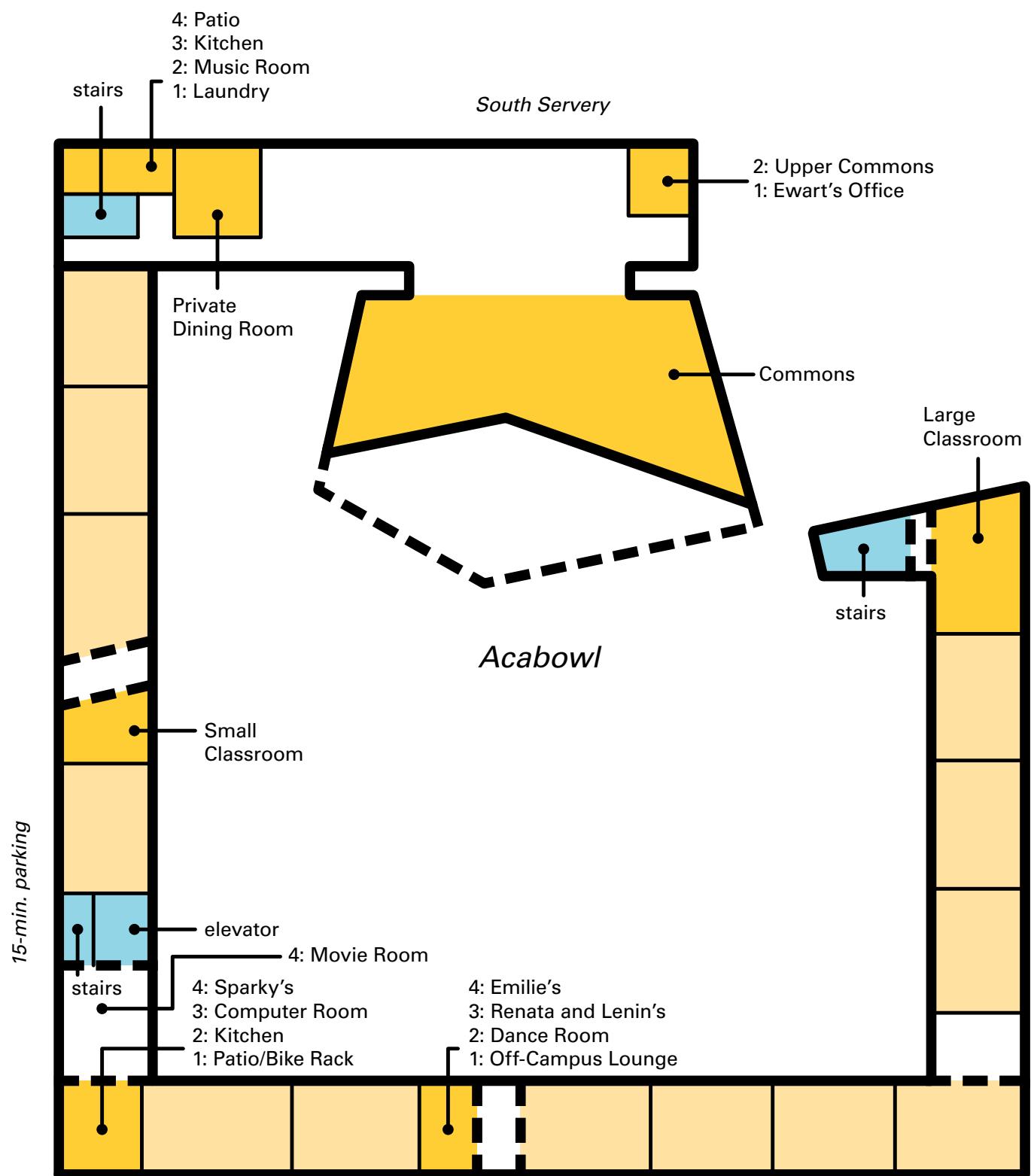
Wiess Outreach Committee: On the Outreach Committee, you will get the opportunity to engage Wiess with service in the Houston community. You will work with other Wiessmen to volunteer at Outreach Days at various service sites well as plan events such as study breaks and events.



Being a Wiessman! -Whether or not you want a position at Wiess, there are ALWAYS opportunities for you to get involved in some way. You are now a member of Wiess and that means you have the chance to benefit and contribute in whatever way interests you. Yeah Wiess!



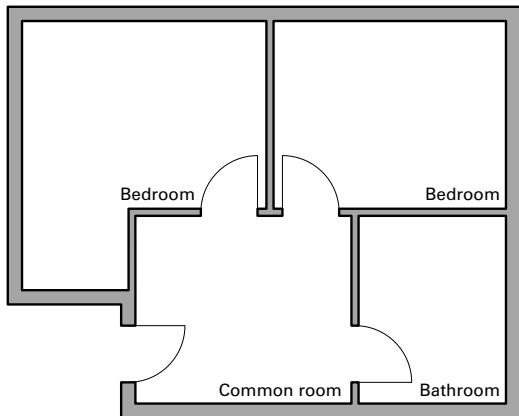
MAP OF WIESS



Learn more about suites on page 27.

Learn more about rooms at Wiess (e.g. Kitchen, Music Room) on page 28t.

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 above), 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 Drs. Schaefer as students!

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

"50% group hug, 50% cheer, 100% goldenrod"
-Alex Alexander

1. An aggressive hug
2. A violent tackle
3. A violent-looking, yet surprisingly safe, expression of TFW love and pride"

-Marley Foster

While nothing that these Fellows described 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!

TEAM FUN FRIDAY WIESS

It's Friday! There's music on the stacks. There's Wiessmen in the acabowl playing volleyball and throwing around a football. Maybe there are puppies? Maybe the A-Team is grilling? or maybe there's a waterslide? Team Fun Friday Wiess happens a few times a month and each fun Friday has a theme and special fun activities that correspond with the theme. If you have great ideas for a TFFW, be sure to contact the TFFW Committee to get involved!

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. *Hello, Hamlet* was performed this past year, but you'll have the chance to get involved your Senior year. Don't pass up this literally once-in-a-Wiesstime 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.

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!

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.

A dark gray background featuring a subtle, repeating pattern of stylized leaves and flowers, similar to a marimekko design.

THE O-WEEK TEAM

THE 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 wiessoweek@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.

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 three **Fellows**, 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 Fellows are excited to meet you, so get ready!

WHAT'S A FELLOW?

Your Fellows are current upperclassmen who have been selected to help lead you in the transition into life at Rice and 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 four of them per O-Week group. At Wiess, we call our Advisors "Fellows" to emphasize the fact that they are your fellow peers. First and foremost, your Fellows are your friends.

Each group also has a Fellow 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.

WHAT'S AN AFFILIATE?

Affiliates are Fellows 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.





YASH TARKUNDE
WIESS '17
SUGAR LAND, TX
CHEMISTRY

MEAGAN DWYER
WIESS '17
FRIENDSWOOD, TX
VADA - STUDIO ART

OLIVIA NIXON-HEMELT
WIESS '17
KOKOMO, IN
BIOCHEMISTRY, FRENCH

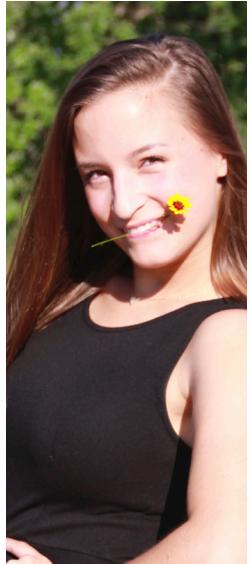


HEAD FELLOWS



MEAGAN You may think you know the greatest person in the world. You're wrong. You've never met Meagan Dwyer, one of your three Head Fellows. This girl is a Keeper of Coffee at Coffeehouse, a Studio Art major, and one of the greatest people I know. Her boho fashion sense will make your closet look like last century's attire. Her artwork will take your breath away and make you question the meaning of life itself. Her latte art will make you snapchat your coffee before you drink it. And you had better recycle the cup or she might just slap you upside the head with her EBIO minor. Hailing from the magical Friendswood, Texas, it's honestly not surprising how kind and thoughtful she is. She will always stop to ask how you are... and mean it. She also spends a lot of time thinking about animals, hammocking, and her collection of succulents. She is fiercely loyal to all her friends. Even when she's extremely busy, she makes time for the people she loves. And while we will always be her favorite new students, we don't mind sharing her with you. After all, there is only one Meagan Dwyer. And the world needs a lot more people like her.

-Tejas Kumar (Sid Rich '19)



OLIVIA Hello Wiess Class of 2020, we are proud to introduce to you Olivia Nixon-Hemelt, a girl who got out of Indiana as fast as she could despite fondly reminiscing on her cow milking days. Hint: Don't forget the Hemelt or you will get a fiery speech about feminism. When she isn't studying for a biochemistry exam or writing a French paper, you will likely find her at one of the many sporting events cheering on your Rice Owls. Her busy schedule does not stop her from getting Chisled (6:30-7:30am every Tues/Thurs) at the Rec, squatting an unheard of 8000 lbs. despite her 5'1" frame, or spitting out nutrition facts that may or may be true. There are few things this incredible girl can't do. She has an avid passion for all things French, especially fresh, warm, soft baguettes and macaroons (mak-a-roon, emphasis on the roons). She is always there for us- and will be for all of you! If you ever need anything, Olivia permanently resides in the commons or can pencil you into her overly elaborate planner, which not only contains her schedule but every shower she takes down to the last minute. In less than one year, this girl will be graduating and moving on to medical school, but her love of Rice University, the goldenrod of Wiess, and O-Week will continue on far beyond that. You are lucky to have such an incredible Head Fellow and an even better friend!

-Allie Porter (Wiess '17)



YASH Effortless. Adjective. Achieved with admirable ease, or requiring no physical/mental exertion. Synonyms include easy, undemanding, and Yash Tarkunde. Oh, you want me to use it in a sentence? Your Head Fellow makes everything seem effortless. Seriously though, whether it's breaking curves in his chemistry and premed classes, breaking hearts, breaking beakers in his research lab (ask him about it!), or breaking ankles on the basketball court, Yash does everything with a lovable grin and maybe even a cheeky tongue out. Who else can so easily switch between rocking the all-goldenrod gym attire and the freshest sweater game you've ever seen? This Sugarland, TX senior stays humble in everything he does, whether it's PAA or Honor Council representative for Wiess or publicity chair for SAS. But don't let all his activities fool you; Yash also readily makes time for his friends too. He doles out encouragement and advice like he spits bars, and he's always there to help you with anything you need. You won't find someone easier to approach or hold a conversation with, and he'll always find a way to make your day better. Get ready, Wiess O-Week 2016, because this Head Fellow is ready to give you all his effort!

-Allen Hu (Wiess '17)

FELLOWS



ALLEN HU
WIESS '17
HOUSTON, TX
BIOENGINEERING
TACOMA

NIMI OYELEYE
WIESS '18
CENTREVILLE, VA
CHEMICAL & BIOMOLECULAR ENG.
+PEER ACADEMIC ADVISOR

HELEN WEI
WILL RICE '18
NAPERVILLE, IL
SOCIOLOGY



ALLEN Allen who? Allen Hu! (Seriously, make that joke around him. He's never heard it before.) If you're fortunate enough to end up with Allen as your Fellow, he is quickly about to become one of the best parts of your life! Whether he's setting up a pool in the bed of his truck using tarps (I'm not kidding), helping people transport couches across campus, or carving up Rice campus on the longboard he made himself, Allen is the neighborhood homie that everyone wants to be friends with. While Allen is exceptionally laid back and somehow always seems to be lounging around somewhere, don't let his demeanor fool you. His skill as a premed bioengineer is unmatched, and he is exceptionally hard-working, even if it doesn't seem like it. He's involved in pretty much everything, from being Rice's best tour guide to serving on the Honor Council to leading a small group in Cornerstone Christian Fellowship, but if you want to hang out (or are craving Whataburger at 2am on a Monday night), Allen's definitely your guy. Regardless of whether he's serving up aces on the court as a member of Rice's Club Tennis Team or serving up some much needed help as Wiess' Head Academic Mentor, Allen will always be there for you, no matter what. With him as your Fellow and new best friend, you'll definitely have the best week – and year – of your life!

-Yash Tarkunde (Wiess '17)

HELEN (to "Stacy's Mom" of Fountains of Wayne)

Helen Wei has got it goin on.

She's all Wiess wants and we've Wei' d so long.

Wiessman can't you see she's the Fellow for you and me.

I know you think I'm wrong, but I think Helen Wei's da bomb....

Now that we've got that out of the wei (haha, get it?), we'll get down to the good stuff. Helen is a wonderful, wombastic, wild woman from Will Rice. She's one of our Vice Presidents, and dang does she work it (like really, she works a lot). As a Junior Sociology major with a minor in Biochemistry, this gal is a pre-med boss from the Chicago suburbs with a hankerin' for deep dish pizza that is never satisfied. In her spare time you can find her savin' lives (as a certified EMT), gettin' those swimmin' thighs (playing club water polo), or dancin' all nigh'(t) (she dances a lot, don't judge). Having a lady with buns like Helen's (hair that is) as your fellow is more than just a stroke of luck - it's destiny. So buckle up for the ride of your life: O-Week 2016's gonna be lit.

-Michael Devine (WRC '18)

-Connor Heggie (WRC '18)

NIMI The first thing you need to know about Nimi is she never stops singing. She's usually belting the words to one of her favorite musicals (her most recent obsession is Hamilton). Her musical obsession runs so deep that she once posted in every single Rice-related Facebook group just to snag some tickets to see Oliver! the musical. When she's not singing, she's probably humming or eating. On most nights, you can find Nimi studying Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering in the Duncan Commons until the sun rises or taking a nap in the Wiess upper commons. Outside of her academics and nap time, Nimi is constantly on a mission to save the world. She helped design innovative windows for schoolhouses in rural Nicaragua to help increase school attendance, joined an Alternative Spring Break group to tackle issues concerning water conservation and sustainability in California for environmental justice, and helps new students understand all things academic at Rice as a Peer Academic Advisor. There is nothing Super-Nimi can't do! Nimi is the goofiest ball of light you will meet at Rice. Don't be intimidated by her height, dazzling smile, and intense dance moves, because we all need Nimi as a friend!

-Molly Reilly (McMurtry '18)

ALEX ALEXANDER
BAKER '17
WOODLANDS, TX
ECONOMICS

DANA SMITH
WIESS '18
LIVINGSTON, TX
STATISTICS

BOB ZHANG
WIESS '19
ZHENJIANG, CHINA
CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENG.
+PEER ACADEMIC ADVISOR

DANA "Where's the guac??" someone yells at ~nearly~ every Rice event. Chances are, it's Dana Smith. She loves bunnies. With the unworldly ability to attend (and help out with) 96.7% of events on campus, reply to 94.3% of the massive stream of messages flooding her phone on the daily, and take an average of 1.7 naps per day, this Statistics major is all-around #Goals. Hailing from Livingston, TX, Dana regularly takes Houston by storm, whether she's blessing Wiess College with her college night planning skills, extending scientific knowledge as a writer for The Catalyst, or making sure others understand the importance of country music and guacamole. Bunnies!! If you're lucky enough to have her as your Fellow, your time at Rice is in good hands. Dana cares about everyone and puts her 100% into all her relationships, and she does so for the long run. Seriously, grab any random sample of Rice students and ask them about Dana Smith - you will consistently obtain positive feedback, across time, class, and all residential colleges. Also did I mention bunnies?!?! Seriously. They're her favorite.

- Asena Alay (Wiess '18)

ALEXALEX Alex Alexander is a world-famous comedian from South Carolina who is best known for playing Tom on Parks and Rec. Oh wait, that's his doppelganger, Aziz Ansari. Alex Alexander, hailing from The Woodlands, Texas, easily surpasses Aziz in wit and knowledge. His colorful pants have brought him to worldwide fame as a modern-day Elton John, and many have speculated that the song "Tiny Dancer" was actually written about Alex due to his incredible dancing skills. He also spent the last semester "studying abroad" in England...*suspicion builds*. When he's not traveling the world or pass-failing classes he's going to get an A in, you can find Alex playing MarioKart as Yoshi, having Netflix marathons in the Baker commons, or reading the latest graphic novels. An PAA, RHA, and the poster child for premeds at Rice, Alex is the perfect person to go to when you need advice of any sort. He's an incredibly loyal friend who will never hesitate to drop everything to help you with anything from finishing a bowl of cereal to getting your life in order. You're in for a great time with him as your Fellow!

-Kat Sofjan (Baker '17)

-Jacob Stautzenberger (Baker '16)

BOB So you've got Bob from China as your Fellow and PAA? Congrats! Consider yourself #blessed. This sophomore Civil Engineering and Applied Math major from Zhenjiang is next level awesome. When he's not working with Rice's concrete canoe team or on some really awesome trip, he's hanging out in the Wiess commons being the most friendly person to ever exist! Even though he's only lived in Houston for a year, he's probably explored more of the city than most native Houstonians. Whether you need schedule planning advice, help with a problem set, or just a big smile, Bob will be there for you. He embodies the Team Family Wiess spirit and is by far the most positive person you will ever meet. Bob recently won an award for giving the world's best hugs so get ready for his friendly embrace. He's always down for an adventure and loves to try new things (especially food). Get pumped, because Bob will definitely make your O-Week experience infinitely more exciting!

-Mariah Lawhon (Jones '16)

-Aurnab Baidya (Wiess '19)

DILLON CHAI
BAKER '17
SHANGHAI, CHINA
ECONOMICS, STATISTICS

DILO DUBE
WIESS '18
HOUSTON, TX
SOCIOLOGY

ASHISH KULKARNI
WIESS '19
THE WOODLANDS, TX
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
+GOPHER

DILO Do you like dancing away all hours of the day? Listening to Beyonce to de-stress? Baking brownies and spreading happiness? Well you're in luck because Dilo Dube is the fellow for you! This bubbly, fun-loving Sociology major is a sunshine in the lives of everyone she knows. On any given day, you can find her hanging in the commons, turning up at a RASA meeting, or dancing everywhere, with or without music. As a supervisor of the Student Center's Information Desk, Dilo loves Rice, conveying her passion for the campus and making a difference in the lives of others. Not only is Dilo down for a good time, but she is also able to handle meaningful, deep conversations with unparalleled grace. Her passion for tackling tough issues head-on and speaking out for what she believes in is contagious and inspires those around her. She, along with another Wiessman, began a series of "Race @Rice" talks this previous year, where students could discuss diversity issues prevalent on the Rice campus and in our society. Dilo is mature beyond her years, imparting wisdom and knowledge through every interaction she has. Her smile is contagious, so start smiling because you are incredibly fortunate to have her as your Fellow this year!

-Tay Jacobe (Wiess '18)

DILLON Dillon has enough wisdom to rival Confucius, that is, if Confucius's "Golden Rule" was "ball is life." Hailing from the exotic city of Shanghai, Dillon has emerged from the smog and found his way to Rice to become the coolest Economics and Statistics double major in all of history. After spending hours toiling in the mysterious kitchen of East-West Tea, the General (Manager) makes it his mission to supply Rice students with the substance they crave most: Boba. After his shifts, you can find Dillon literally spending hours at the rec boasting all of his opponents at basketball. If you can't find him at the rec, you might be able to find him watching a Rockets game with a bobblehead version of Dwight Howard. Or maybe he is taking a nap at one of the oddest hours of the day. Or perhaps he is debating whether or not he should eat that fifth slice of pizza. Regardless of what he is doing, he will drop everything to go get late-night food with you and talk about whatever is on your mind, especially if it is Fetty Wap. D. Chai is the most approachable person you could ever meet, and one glance at his dimply smile will have you smitten. Without a doubt, Dillon will be your favorite Fellow.

-Jessica Griffiths (Baker '17)

ASHISH Kobe, LeBron, Michael Jordan. You're probably familiar with these hall of famers. But a lesser known all-star lies within the depths of Wiess College. Ashish Kulkarni. This Houston native is a baller with impeccable music taste. Ashish is always down to have a jam sesh and can belt out the lyrics to every good country song out there. He'll always be there for you whether you want to grab late night food, talk about life, or do homework (read: watch Gossip Girl) at 2 am. As a Mechanical Engineering and Math Econ double major, Ashish has an amalgam of knowledge so use him as the valuable resource he is! He's also #goals as the co-founder of his own business at Rice. You can find him talking about his favorite color (hot pink of course) or his favorite One Direction member (Niall Horan of course). Ashish is always one to go on an adventure, and he will make your O-Week and Rice career the best time of your life! He may be #24 on the court but after O-Week, he will most definitely be #1 in your heart. Count your lucky stars because you just landed yourself the best gopher/friend to ever exist.

-Nasim Khalfé (Wiess '19)



RACHEL NGO
WIESS '18
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
KINESIOLOGY, SPANISH
+PEER ACADEMIC ADVISOR

HELEN GUNN
WIESS '17
YORK, PA
ENGLISH

JK GULATI
MARTEL '17
SUGAR LAND, TX
BIOCHEMISTRY



HELEN York, Pennsylvania. Home of the York Peppermint Pattie, but most importantly, home of Helen Gunn, a rising senior that's just as classic and sweet as this delectable treat. Easily recognized by her tortoise shell glasses and her sleek fashion sense (truly a walking Madewell ad), this English major is a beacon of grace and sophistication, as well as an impressive fountain of knowledge and wisdom. An incredibly cultured old soul, Helen (rumor has it) emerged from the womb holding a pair of opera glasses. Ask her and she can easily give you a lengthy list of her favorite art museums and serenade you with the top musical hits of nineteenth century France (in perfect French, no doubt). Student by day, star by night, she'll often bless campus with her angelic voice in various productions, including Wiess's own *Into the Woods* and *Hello! Hamlet*. Her quick wit and remarkable vocabulary are only matched by her fierce loyalty and genuine care for those around her. Of course, when she's not busy being #flawless, Helen's a total goofball, as you'll see from her shameless love for alpacas (which she calls her squad), her hilarious collection of childhood anecdotes (like the time she confessed her sins to a Mr. Yuck sticker), as well as her eccentric (read: tumblr-inspired) sense of humor. Supportive through and through, this lovely human being will stop at nothing to ensure you have the absolute best O-Week (and year) imaginable!

-Jodie Nghiem (McMurtry '17)

JK Bae. No one word better describes the #1 Punjabi on campus Jaskeerat Gulati. One might label him quite the guru, considering that he is both a Peer Academic Advisor and Rice Health Advisor; essentially he is your go-to guy for any sort of life advice you might need! Although he might prefer to be called "JK," you can sure be certain that this beautiful soul is not a joke. A self-proclaimed boba addict, JK can often be found snooping around the Rice Memorial Center on the prowl for the coveted milk-infused, tapioca filled beverage. When he's not seeking to fuel his habits, he can be found tearing it up at the gym (he'll certainly let you know via snapchat), blazing trails for biochemistry in the lab, or stealing the hearts of women on the dance floor. This man will literally Bhangra to anything, and if you're lucky enough he might even teach you a few of his slick moves. Should a divine decree echo across the vast heavens, placing you in the company of JK, count yourself amid one of the most fortunate people at Wiess, nay the universe! For you have just made friends with one of the most caring, genuine, and fun people at Rice University.

-Sean Dillard (Sid Rich '17)

RACHEL Hailing from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, USA, Rachel Ngo is a jack of all trades, master of all. Whether it be sports, games, or being the nicest person on the planet, Rachel Ngo always strives to be the very best, like no one ever was. Her niceness stat is 99/10. She's a very talented advice giver as well (her advice giving stat is 99/10), and she can beat you at any sport after learning it for a year (her sporting stat is 99/10). She's majoring in kicking her enemy's butts, and also Kinesiology, and Spanish. And as an avid student, she also learns like a pro in her sleep (ask her how she learned to do the splits). When she's not busy helping people out, she enjoys a nice swim at her fountain of youth, a practice that has kept her face from aging in the last 10 years (That's right! She answered the question to eternal youth!). And as your PAA, Rachel will strive to be the best at helping you out with everything!

-Raymond Cano (Wiess '17)

-Tomás San Pablo (Wiess '17)

-Kevin Zheng (Wiess '16)



BRIAN TIGHE
WEISS '18
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL
CHEMICAL & BIOMOLECULAR ENG.
+CHIEF JUSTICE

IZZY RODRIGUEZ
WEISS '18
HOUSTON, TX
POLITICAL SCIENCE

MORGAN SMITH
WEISS '17
HOLTON, KS
CHEMICAL & BIOMOLECULAR ENG.
+STUDENT MAINTENANCE REP

CASSY GIBSON
DUNCAN '17
SINTON, TX
ENGLISH, BIOCHEMISTRY

IZZY Hailing from the far-off land of sorta-Northwest Houston, self-proclaimed 'Aphbrodite' Izzy Rodriguez is a man of many talents. Known as the Pop Star Savant of Wiess, he can talk about music from Adele to Zayn with ease and has a song ready for any situation. Legend even has it that when he walks into a room, Britney Spears' "Toxic" plays faintly in the background. When he's not giving away his paychecks from The Hoot to Toyota Center concerts and fashionable tank tops, he discusses new ideas and directions for the world with the Baker Institute, and crisscrosses the nation telling it like it is on Rice's Speech and Debate Team, where he is a nationally-ranked competitor. Seriously, he can go complex fiscal policy to Kylie Minogue being underrated in one convo (Ask him why "Into The Blue" is the greatest song ever made). Izzy's most natural state, however, is in the commons late at night, blasting his music and preparing to lip sync for his life someday. He is a character. He is extra. He is a Gloria Estefan superfan. He's seen Lana Del Rey twice. He's probably going to be the Mariah Carey of politics (Ask him what THAT means). But most importantly, he is your friend. He is #IzzyE and you'll be glad to have him there for O-Week and beyond.

-Keshawn Ivory (Wiess '18)

CASSY Why was the toadstool invited to the party? Because he was a fungi! Why did he have to leave? Because there wasn't mushroom! If you have an avid appreciation for mushroom jokes like the one above and plant-life in general, look no further because Cassy will be your bestie for the restie! Although she isn't a fungi (nor is she a guy), she makes almost every situation a guaranteed fun time. This toadstool-loving, literature-adoring, "angry" vegan is actually a big softie on the inside - when she isn't busy being a modern day Superwoman, you often can find her ogling animal videos, scouring the interwebs for the best memes, loving her own puppy and those at the Rice Farmers' Market, or taking care of her imaginary cats on Neko Atsume. Cassy doesn't appreciate only furry animals: you can also find her caring for cell cultures in her edgy research lab. From bacteria to high-order eukaryotes, she definitely is an enthusiastic lover of life. But despite her packed schedule, you can always count on this future doc and twerk kween for a good laugh. Get excited for your future home at Rice: you truly have best Fellow that ever was!

-Tommy Nguyen (Wiess '17)

MORGEN At the young age of 15, Morgen left her home of Holton, Kansas (population 3,300) to start college at Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas (population 20,000). She may have gotten her start in tiny Kansas towns, but don't be fooled: this amateur rocket scientist is more at home in college than most graduate students. This Chemistry major turned Chemical Engineering major knows how to de-stress: she is an active cat-sitter, adult coloring book colorer, and horror movie connoisseur. She can often be found venturing to the best coffeeshops in town in her beloved car, Bruce, or dying her hair magnificent shades of red matched only by her fiery passion for Wiess. In terms of love languages, Morgen's is expert gift-giving: count on Morgen to find you a small trinket that perfectly embodies who you are as a person. If you want to return the favor, a nice cheese will never fail to make her day. Get to know Wiess College's favorite SMR and not only will your life will be enriched, your facilities will also be immaculately maintained.

-Lucy Matveeva (Wiess '17)

-Greg Harper (Wiess '17)

BRIAN [read Brian's bio on pg. 22]

NATALIE DANKERS
BAKER '17
LIBERTYVILLE, IL
PSYCHOLOGY, ENGLISH

JOSH MARRS
WIESS '17
NORMAN, OK
SOCIOLOGY, PJHC

TALIA KRAMER
WIESS '19
MULLICA HILL, NJ
CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENG.
+GOPHER

JOSH Ciao. Siamo orgogliosi di presentare Joshua Marrs. Josh “big papi” Marrs: at an impressive six feet four inches, 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. He 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, like many, he had a brief foray into the realm of bioengineering. After interning with a chef in Italy, Josh has become quite the cook as well, though it can leave his fingers a little sticky. His rigatoni with a creamy mushroom sauce is positively transcendental. He’s campus champion (or close, that’s not important) of ping pong (or something). As anyone from Wiess to McMurry to Brown to McMurry 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, which you should ask him about because we never do. He is the most big-and-tall-shopping, bear wrastling (allegedly), caring (about weightlifting obviously), mountain man around. 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 hyped for the best four years of your life, led into the unknown by the one and only “Mr. Fantastic.”

PS: Major bonus points to anyone who can decode the secret message above

-Josh Kaye (Wiess ‘17)

-Greg Harper (Wiess ‘17)

NATALIE Natalie Danckers, the sweet to my pea, the wild to my flower, the cu to my cumber, this is one fine and extraordinary woman. If this English major’s perfect grammar and expertly crafted sentences aren’t enough to make you swoon, her angelic voice will serenade you to a state of pure bliss. You can hear her soloing during many Low Keys concerts in that gorgeous Alto 1 range that just makes your skin tingle. On any given day you might find this beautiful lady reading out on the trampoline, soaking up the sun, or studying in Coffeehouse where the risk of human interaction keeps her focused on her work. A key member of Rice’s Catalyst, she is well-versed in cutting edge technology and news, embracing interdisciplinary collaboration at its finest. With aspirations to one day own a dog, she has already put her kind, caregiving ways into practice. A true friend and a loving mentor with a winning personality, Natalie Danckers will be a delightful influence in your life!

-Stephanie Brener (Baker ‘17)

TALIA You’re walking around Rice’s sensational campus when all of a sudden you hear it- the wedges, you feel it- the awkwardness, you see it- The Talia Kramer. Have you ever seen a flying cocoon? Well, you soon will. Why do we say that? Because sometimes her social interactions are painful to watch; she is a social butterfly that never fully metamorphosed. She never gives up, never surrenders. She’s loyal. She’s smart. She a genius. Physics- she slays that. Bridges- she builds that (after she successfully completes her BS in Civil and Environmental Engineering). Jokes- she tries that. On a more serious note, Talia Kramer is one of the most dependable and caring people you will ever meet. If you ever need guidance, advice, or just a good laugh, don’t hesitate to reach out to her - you won’t be disappointed (unless it’s past 10 PM because that girl is SCHLEEEEEEEEP). Talia is the most down to Earth person you will meet and will always make you feel included. So consider yourself #blessed to have her as your fellow, because she will go above and beyond to ensure that you have the BEST and MOST UNFORGETTABLE O-Week ever!!!

-The Remas (Class of ‘19)



MICHELLE ZHAO
WIESS '18
MARLBORO, NJ
COGNITIVE SCIENCE, NEUROSCIENCE
+VIDEOGRAPHER

TESSA FRIES
LOVETT '18
MORRISTOWN, TN
PHILOSOPHY, ENGLISH



KUNAL SHAH
WIESS '18
CORTLANDT MANOR, NY
COMPUTER SCIENCE

KUNAL If you are lucky enough to be in Kunal Shah's O-Week group, you have been gifted with a Fellow whose individuality and confidence is inspiring and contagious! Kunal is one of the most passionate, stylish, and driven people around. As soon as you meet him, his amazing sense of style and suave looks will make you want to step up your fashion game ASAP! Whether heading to class or going out for late night food, he is always dressed exceptionally. Although this junior is studying computer science, he's interested in all sorts of things, like coffee, fashion, cutting hair, politics, coffee, design, shopping, breakfast tacos, and coffee (he's a bit of a caffeine junkie if you couldn't tell). With his rich myriad of interests, Kunal will be an amazing resource and person to talk to for any of your passions at Rice. Even after just a short time of knowing him, you are guaranteed to say, "I want to be Kunal when I grow up!". With this guy as your Fellow, know that he will be there for you every step of the way to welcome you to your new home at Wiess and Rice.

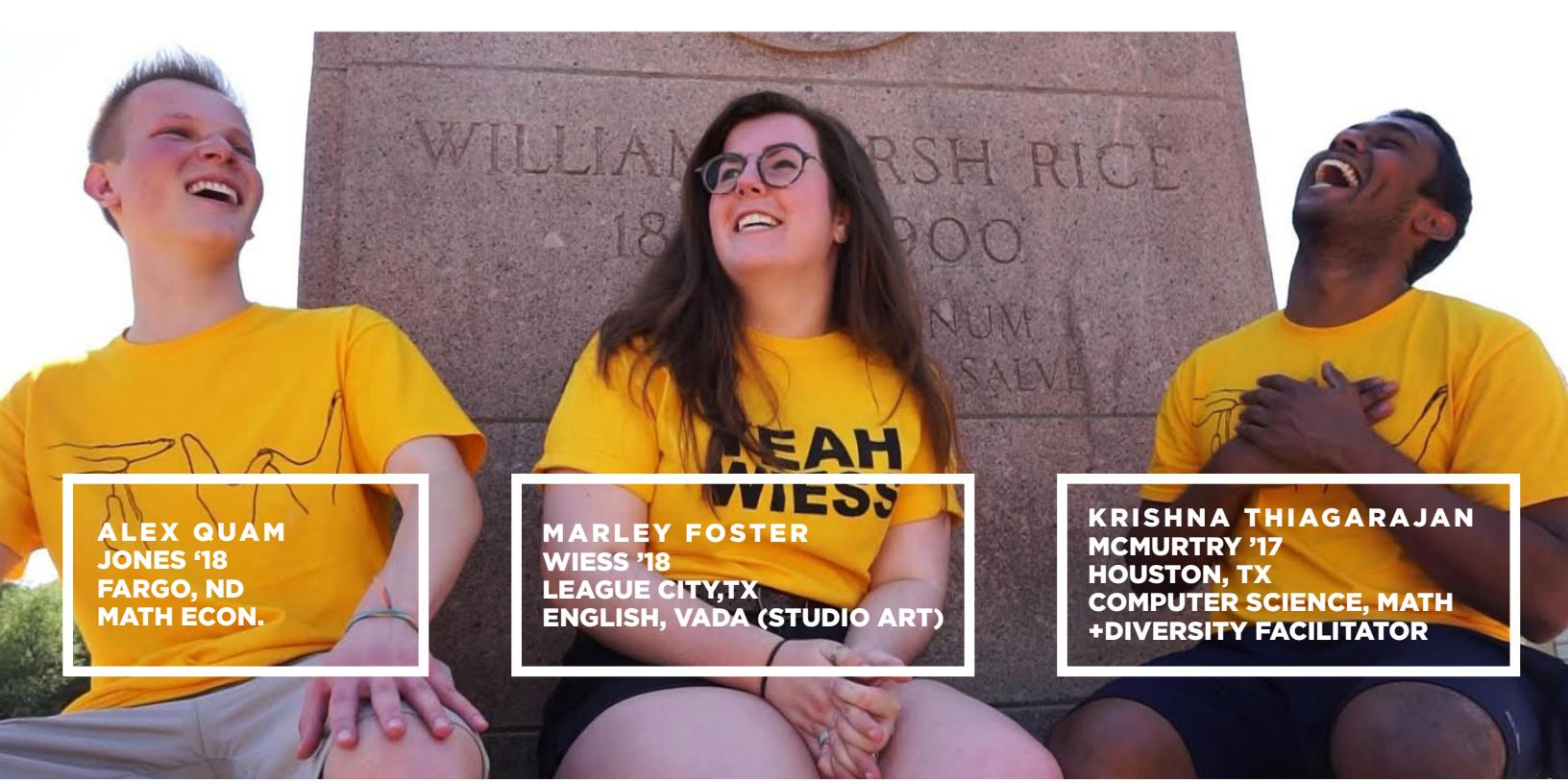
-Michael Hart (Wiess '16)

TESSA Sometimes, you come across those friends who makes you step back and think, "What did I do to deserve this person in my life?" Tessa Fries is one of those people. One of the most thoughtful, kind, and real friends I have ever met, you can be sure that Tessa is always doing something but always free if you need or want her. She's incredibly involved and passionate; you can find this gal cheering on the field at a game, working at the Office of Technology Transfer, or hanging out at Lovett working as our External Vice President. She's an awesome resource for your academic needs, as she's a Peer Academic Advisor, an Academic Fellow, and part of the French Honors Society! While she does a LOT for Rice, Tessa is above all an incredible friend. She's reliable and loyal, and always down for an adventure. She reminds you of your true value and cares openly, making life seem a little brighter with each conversation. Pull her aside to drink some coffee with her newly-repaired Keurig (ask her how she lived without it) and talk; her warmth and caring will remind you why you have the best O-Week Fellow possible.

-Jahnnavi Jagganath (Lovett '18)

MICHELLE If you're in Michelle's O-Week group, consider yourself lucky because you're in for a FANTASTIC O-Week experience. Michelle hails from the far-away land of Marlboro, New Jersey, but also knows Brooklyn, New York like the back of her hand. This junior Cognitive Science major is the epitome of cool college student. When she's not studying (#premed life), you can often find Michelle snapchatting, watching Buzzfeed cooking videos, wearing a choker, laughing in the middle of one of her own stories, eating granola, or any other equally cool thing. When she's not doing any of those things, you'll probably find her on her way to lab, a Rice NeuroSociety meeting (she's an officer!), or the servery (a girl's gotta eat!). As Wiess' newsletter rep, she knows everything that's going on around campus and can get you connected in a heartbeat. At this point, you may be thinking "WOW! What a busy girl!" and you're right in thinking that, but she's never too busy to sit down and chat over hummus, cashew clusters, craisins, cupcakes, or food of any kind, really. So, get excited for O-Week and the next four years with Michelle as not only your Fellow, but also your friend.

-Nimi Oyeleye (Wiess '18)



ALEX QUAM
JONES '18
FARGO, ND
MATH ECON.

MARLEY FOSTER
WIESS '18
LEAGUE CITY, TX
ENGLISH, VADA (STUDIO ART)

KRISHNA THIAGARAJAN
MCMURTRY '17
HOUSTON, TX
COMPUTER SCIENCE, MATH
+DIVERSITY FACILITATOR



MARLEY Behind every mane of beautiful glossy dark hair lies a beautiful soul. Okay, this may not actually be true, but for Marley Foster it certainly is. This Humanities queen's talents have extensive coverage: she can produce screenplays and sculptures. She can draw, design, and delve into the complex issues of novels, art, and popular culture. And make sure you check out her *Odyssey* articles, where she showcases her knack for relating to others -- and she, in truly humble Marley manners, will tell you she's "glad you liked it!" But do not fear: Marley is so much more than her wisdom and wit. Somehow, amid her packed schedule, which features art projects and shows galore, she's an incredibly helpful, genuine, sweet (and occasionally sassy) friend who will make time for you always.

-Asena Alay (Wiess '18)

ALEX Some superheroes wear capes. Alex Quam wears his smile. No matter what kind of day you are having, it's impossible not to feel instantly better after a heart-to-heart and hug from a guy who radiates sunshine from his goldenrod hair. Easily the most loved person around, people will squeal when you tell them you scored Alex as your Fellow. This junior from Jones College brings the warmth and also braves the cold. Hailing from freezing Fargo, North Dakota (population: 4 – well 3 now that Alex left), he is President of the North Dakota Cow Tipping Society, and has the survival ability of Bear Grylls. The harsh environment taught him to be able to identify nourishing food sources – he has a keen eye for spotting the servery with cinnamon rolls and will send all caps texts to let you know. The two of you will then spend the next hour stuffing your faces and talking about deep things (it's a truly life-changing experience). A professional two-stepper, Alex can twirl and dip his partner like he was born in the South. He's also a Mathematical Economic Analysis major, Business minor, Vice President of Moneythink, and DECA reigning world champion. He's been able to combine these skills to run a successful free hug business (current profit: \$0). Alex will give you the warmest welcome to Rice you could ever imagine, and he'll be by your side supporting you during every adventure you have here.

-Ani Kunaparaju (Jones '19)

-Emily Abdow (Jones '19)

KRISHNA HIIIIII!!!! I'm Krishna Thiagarajan a senior (oh god typing that was weird) from McMurry, majoring in Computer Science and Math. Not only will it be my first time being a part of O-Week after my freshman year, but I will also be a Diversity Facilitator for Wiess O-Week! Outside of O-Week, I'm also part of the Chowl Bhangra Team, a competitive Indian dance team, and the president of the Rice CS Club. I love to scuba dive, binge-watch House of Cards, irrationally support the Houston Rockets, and just kick back and chill with friends. I'm so pumped for O-Week, and hopefully so are you!!!

-Krishna Thiagarajan (McMurtry '17)



RICHARD Biiiiiiig Rich. Ricky. RKZ. Richard Kevin Zhang is a man of many nicknames (he'll probably give you one too) and even more talents. With a laugh that can be heard throughout Wiess, this Computer Science/FCAM wizard can be found helping out a friend with homework in the commons, getting thrown down during a game of Super Smash Bros, or getting even more swole at the Rec. Whether watching the Grizzlies (representing his hometown of Memphis), shooting some hoops himself, or winning another IM inner tube water polo championship, this guy sure knows his stuff when it comes to sports. But don't let his muscles intimidate you, this cheeseball's actually a huge softy (as shown by his number one listened to album on Spotify: High School Musical) and steals the hearts (and cereal) of everyone around him. Whenever you're feeling down, Richard is the guy you want to go to. His sense of humor and heart will have you laughing and feeling better in no time. Not only did you just score a phenomenal Fellow, you've also gained a pretty rad friend too.

-*Rachel Lambert (Wiess '18)*

JAMIE This alliterative goddess has it all: looks, brains, dance moves, personality, and looks. Her beauty is only matched by her drive to cure all children of their illnesses, which is why she's going to be the world's top pediatrician when she's done winning 4 Nobel Prizes and subsequently Dancing with the Stars. When she's not beating off suitors with a stick, she's working on mastering her knowledge of medicine and perfecting the art of making cheese quesadillas. Her psychology major also means she can read your mind and tell your future. After talking with her, you're guaranteed to learn something new about yourself or the world of science. But you don't need a psychology degree to know that your future is bright if you know Jamie because studies show that her presence alone adds ten years to your lifespan (Ackerman et al.). Her abilities can only match Wonder Woman, with her powers to cheer up you and run from class to meetings. Don't think she doesn't have grit, though. You will lose a belching match against her. So get ready to know one of the most spectacular humans on this planet (who has a name that's so darn fun to say aloud), Jamie Jiang.

-*Emily Ackerman (Will Rice '17)*

MONIQUE Monique, queen of the sassy eye flutter, long-lost Dutch princess : all acceptable titles for the one and only Monique "Ggh'roon." Born and raised in Houston (although she has the elegance and beauty of ancient royalty), Monique is a loyal, unrelenting force of friendship for all who know her well. Whether she is gracing the dance halls of Rice with a refined style of motion, planning NOD, or putting in work on her Econometrics homework, Monique addresses everything she does with her full potential. This future lawyer has dreams of representing Hollywood's finest in entertainment law; however, her own superb dancing, singing, and acting skills are unmatched (rumor has it she was even a child model), and it's likely that she may be the starlet needing a personal lawyer one day to make sure that no one gets away with piggy-backing off of her own trademarked vocals and dance moves. Until then, Mo'nique is easily spotted on any dance floor dancing to the best of Chris Brown and good ole Biebs. The posterchild of Urban Outfitters, Mo is literally the only person who can rock sweat pants and a hoodie with such elegance and grace. With her giant heart and unmatched compassion, you are about to gain a confidant, role model, and, mostly importantly, friend. Get ready for all new profile pictures thanks to Photography by Mo ® and incredible memories to go along with them!

-*Olivia Nixon-Hemelt (Wiess '17)*

-*Allie Porter (Wiess '17)*



RYAN TRAUFFER
WIESS '17
THE WOODLANDS, TX
ECON, MANAGERIAL STUDIES

SAPNA SURESH
MARTEL '18
CUPERTINO, CA
CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENG.
+DIVERSITY FACILITATOR

CINDY HWANG
SID RICH '17
SUGAR LAND, TX
KINESIOLOGY



RYAN As a guy whose hobbies include going to the zoo and usually being the only person there neither pushing a stroller nor sitting in a stroller, and watching all 82 Rockets games in a single season, Ryan is excited to welcome you to life at Wiess and Rice. There were 4 Ryans in his sixth grade class, so now most people he knows, including his friends and his mother, fondly address him as "Trauffler." He's a retired football player with a knack for tearing his ACL, so he can now instead be found in the stands of most every Rice sports event, where his knees stay safe from the action. He has the high-pressure job of being Wiess' resident Friday music player, taking your requests and waking you up at 4 am on Beer Bike. He is an economics and managerial studies double major with few plans regarding post-graduation, and whose only known professional skills include Microsoft Excel proficiency and elementary fluency in Spanish. Join Ryan this year in viendo deportes de Rice Búhos (but seriously we need more fans), and get ready for the most exciting Orientation Week and best four years of college that you'll ever experience!

-Ryan Trauffler (Wiess '17)

CINDY With this girl at the reins, you're sure to feel at home at Rice in no time. Don't let her Asian exterior fool you; Cindy was raised in the great state of Texas. Sure, she's a driven pre-grad student who invests her time as a Head Peer Academic Advisor, an Academic Fellow, the Sid Treasurer, and a board member of the Rice Rally Club, but she's your go-to Southern belle that loves adventuring outdoors. She can tell you about the best outdoor study spots, all the ins-and-outs of academics, and she'll ask you to go with her to ALL (or some) athletic events to support fellow Owls. Her enthusiasm to foster Rice spirit and pride will make you love and embrace that you finally matriculated into the greatest university. You'll enjoy every second with her, and before long you'll be as proud to be an Owl as she is!

-Kristi Fu (Brown '17)

-Allen Hu (Wiess '17)

SAPNA Prepare yourself for some top-notch (diversity) facilitation! Hailing from Cupertino, California, Sapna will diversify your perspective more than you thought was intellectually possible. In one conversation, she can get you with sass, wisdom, passion, and humor. When not in Martel, she can be found making killer lattes in Coffeehouse, ruling with an iron fist (not really) on University Court, solving the civil engineering problems of our generation, and designing a green roof with Solar House. You'll soon realize when you meet her that she has endless energy, probably due to the three iced chai lattes she has per day. Regardless, having Sapna in your O-Week is the best thing to happen to you. Not only will you have someone to take you on frequent late night trips to Taco Bell, make quality drank recommendations at chaüs, and tell you hilarious stories of her childhood (she once tried to sail in a toboggan and promptly sank), but you'll also get a friend for life.

-Amanda K. Weaver (Martel '18)

SAMMY SOYEBO
BAKER '17
SUGAR LAND, TX
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING



SHREEYA PATEL
WIESS '17
SUGAR LAND, TX
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



GRACE LI
WIESS '19
TAMPA, FL
KINESIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY
+GOPHER



SHREEYA Meet Shreeya Patel, a Sugarland, TX native and aspiring physician. A lot of people would describe Shreeya as the most genuinely kind person you will ever meet. However, Shreeya's personality goes far beyond that. She'll go from hardcore pre-med to Bollywood dancing queen within seconds. Her boundless energy and infectious laugh bring joy to everyone around her. She can be found playing with the Aca-babies or getting her daily dose of coffee at Coffeehouse. I know for a fact that Shreeya cannot wait to welcome you with open arms (no seriously, she gives THE BEST hugs). Shreeya will shower her new students with so much love. The most wonderful thing about Shreeya is that she's everything you want in a friend, and I have no doubt that she will be everything you want in a Fellow. She's a great listener; she has patiently sat through many of my rants. She's incredibly reliable and honest. She's also super silly and clumsy (don't be afraid to laugh at her when she falls, odds are she will be on the floor laughing too). Shreeya knows when its time to buckle down and do work, but she also knows how to get down and "work, work, work, work, work, work" (feat. Rihanna). You are in for a treat with this one!

-Marlene Rizo (Wiess '17)

SAMMY If you're about to don the goldenrod t-shirt for the rest of your life, congratulations. If you're going to have Sammy as a Fellow, an even bigger congratulations!! You're going to have to grab a seat-belt for the metaphorical rollercoaster. Sammy is compassionate and energetic. He's considerate and often referred to as "the sweetest hunk of trouble" by his employers. He'll be there to lend a hand whenever you need it. If he's not in the OEDK building engineer stuff, he's probably talking to squirrels, playing COD or making someone smile/laugh..... Oh, and Sammy could destroy you on a dance floor, ask him about the time he won a dougie contest. No joke. He wasn't there. But if he was, he would have won. There was this one time where he did this one thing, at this one place that was really cool. I can't really tell you about it. But trust me. It was radical on levels that only Tony Hawk could understand. Yes. Yes it is 2006.

-Saul Membreño (Baker '16)

GRACE You have to be careful about approaching Grace Li. Why? She just might catch you off-guard by unleashing her signature glorious beaming smile on you—eyes curving and face brimming with complete and utter happiness. Or maybe it's an enthusiastic "HI HI HI HI HI" that overwhelms you with affection. Either way, completely devastating for the unprepared; you might have to clutch your heart, gasp, stagger back a few paces. SO. CUTE. SO. BRIGHT. But that's Grace in a nutshell. This 5'2" bundle of sunshine (fittingly, from Florida) will never fail to cheer you up, and though she's tiny, her heart is incredibly huge. Even when juggling her premed course-load, working on a committee for Camp Kesem, being involved with her small group in Cornerstone Christian Fellowship, or acting as Associate Justice for Wiess Court, she will drop everything in a heartbeat to lavish love upon you in any way you need it. There's really no one more caring or more sensitive in spirit, and she's more than excited to meet and love you too. So get pumped to have Miss Grace Tianchen Li welcome you to your life at Rice!

-Shirley Xu (Wiess '17)

-Allen Hu (Wiess '17)



MARGARET LIE
WIESS '17
LAKE CHARLES, LA
BIOCHEMISTRY
+PEER ACADEMIC ADVISOR

TAY JACOBE
WIESS '18
SYKESVILLE, MD
ECONOMICS

NICKY JOSEPH
LOVETT '18
SUGAR LAND, TX
CHEMISTRY



TAY This amazing Junior from Sykesville, Maryland will light up your life! Here are a few hashtags to describe Tay's awesomeness:

#doglover How can you get on Tay's good side immediately? Say you love dogs. Tay looooves dogs. Being allergic to them (so sad) does not stop Tay from befriending any dog she meets.

#busybee This Economics and Policy Studies major minoring in Business and Politics Law and Social Thought is also External Vice President of Wiess. Her busy schedule doesn't stop Tay from having fun though, and she always finds time to Netflix.

#superhero Tay's super power is the power to not procrastinate. Seriously, it's amazing! Super responsible and dependable, you can count on Tay to stay on top of things!

#TFW Tay loves Wiess. Most days you can find her in the commons chilling with other Wiessmen. Tay is great person to learn about Wiess from and she is always ready to share her Wiess pride!

#bae Tay is a fabulous friend and person. Need a shoulder to cry on? Wanna just hang? Tay is your girl! 10/10 recommend friendship! And to the few lucky new students in her O-Week Group, trust me, you hit the jackpot!

-Dilo Dube (Wiess '18)

NICKY "Bro, ping pong?" If you happen to find yourself in the Lovett commons between the hours of 4:00 pm and 4:00 am, you will surely hear this phrase resounding from either Nicky Joseph or one of his many Lovett bros. Nicky can't carry a tune in a bucket, but rumor has it that his sensationally trimmed beard and stylish "Math Strong" wristband qualify him to replace Zayn Malik as the newest member of One Direction once they work out the contract details. Until then, Nicky's keeping himself busy spreading culture as the president of Rice's South Asian Society, genetically modifying T-cells in his lab, and power-napping. Outside of these pastimes, he distinguishes himself with his heightened sensitivity to smell and the resulting quirks: an obsession with fabric softener and an inability to sleep with smelly feet. Lucky for you, he's as sensitive as his nose, if not more so. As his incoming students, you can count on this Fellow to have your back (and a paternal-type joke) every time.

-Max Hassell (Lovett '18)

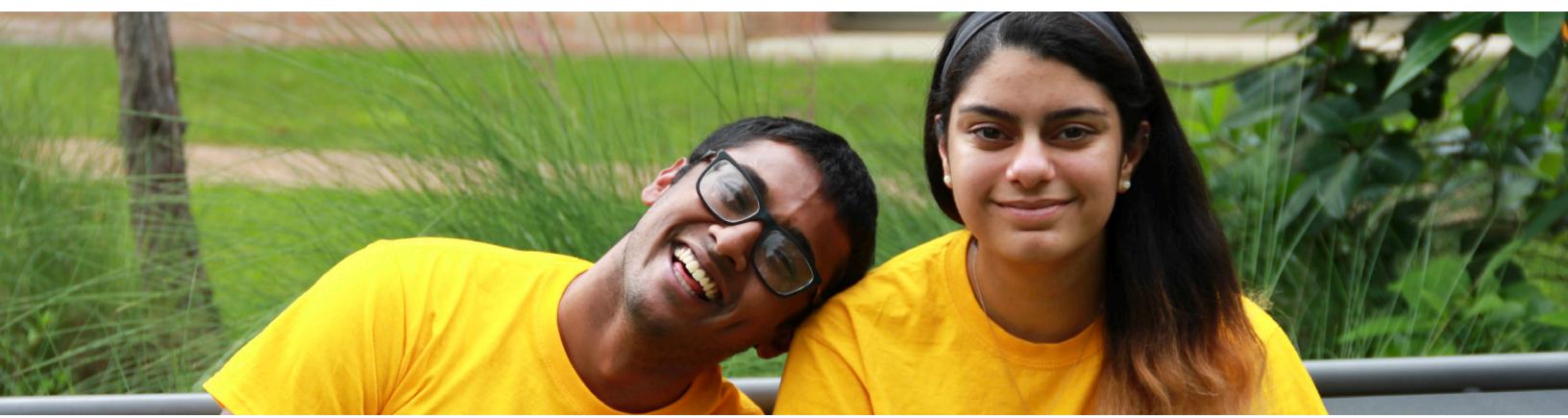
-Aaron Wong (Lovett '18)

-Manasi Joshi (Lovett '18)

MARGARET Hey! Look out your window! See that large, glowing orb in the sky? Look away from it--it'll blind you. Congrats! You've just had a glance of your wonderful head PAA, Margaret Lie! Well, not exactly, but it's definitely close! As it is, if it were possible to take the sun and put it into a person, the product of such an endeavor would be Margaret. She is always around with a smile to assure you your life isn't going to the dogs, give you a hug or words of affirmation, show you the funniest of YouTube videos, or give you music recs (her taste is impeccable). While Margaret is the epitome of culture and kindness, she is also one of the most trust-inspiring PAA's on this side of the Mississippi! Margaret knows every academic fact you need to know to make it through your years at Rice and, unlike the sun, she's around even when the weather isn't as fair as she. So go and say hi to her, ask her any questions you may have, inevitably share a casual conversation with her, and give yourself a high-five—you've just made one of the best friends you'll ever have a Rice.

-Helen Gunn (Wiess '17)

-Samantha Leonard (Wiess '17)



PEER ACADEMIC ADVISORS

NIMI, RACHEL, BOB, AND MARGARET

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.

DIVERSITY FACILITATORS

KRISHNA AND SAPNA

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.

RICE HEALTH ADVISORS

JK GULATI / Rachel Lambert, Ben Tour, Tyler de Salazar, Becca Federman, and Hannah Todd

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.

GOPHERS

GRACE, TALIA, AND ASHISH

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!).



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.



CONCLUSION/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,
Yash, Olivia, and Meagan

THANKS

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

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

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

Our **Fellows from other colleges**, for proudly wearing goldenrod and joining our family.

The **Schaefers, Renata, Lenin, and Emilie**, for all of their encouragement and help.

Ewart, for his organization, ability to keep us sane, and never-ending sass.

Seth, Solji, and Chris, for their tireless efforts and for providing a cornucopia of snacks and meals during this journey.

The other **O-Week Coordinators**, for their support, friendship, and fun times.

Monique Groen, Olivia Tati, and Olivia Hu, for capturing Wiess in all its photogenic glory.

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Watch your Fellows' videos at 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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