

Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week



College is a Fairytale
McMurtry College 2021



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Chapter One: *Welcome*

Important Information

Your McMurtry Mailing Address

(Your Name)
McMurtry College
1605 Rice Blvd.
Houston, TX 77005

****Please only mail or ship things to arrive after August 15th. Our space is limited and not secure, so bring important items with you. There will be time to shop for other things during and after O-Week.****



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Welcome to...



Hello Protagonists! On behalf of the entire team, we would like to welcome you to McMurtry College! We are Jazmine, Josselyn, and Rajpal, your 2021 Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week Coordinators, and we could not be more excited to introduce you to the story book that we call Rice University! The college application process is one of the most challenging and rigorous processes that you will have to go through, and Rice admission was especially tough this year with the increased number of applications to our university. It is a major accomplishment to get in and you should be extremely proud of yourselves. We want to say congratulations, as this is a sign of all of your hard work paying off. We know that this is the start of your academic and social career, as you continue to chase your goals and ambitions. Also, we would like to congratulate you on being the 13th matriculating class at McMurtry college! We are thrilled to welcome a new round of Murts into our community and can't wait to see you represent McMurtry and Rice all over campus.

In these next few years of your life, you'll be working hard, studying, meeting new friends, and enjoying yourself. The time will be filled with plenty of opportunities as well as challenges for you to face and overcome. It's going to require you to dig deep, ask questions, study an extra hour (or 2!), and maybe stay up late a couple of nights. But do not be dismayed! You are not in this journey alone. You are going to be surrounded by other students, professors, and advisors who have been in your shoes before and can help you get the resources that you need for you to succeed. We have been preparing these last 9 months in order for you to be integrated to Rice and McMurtry smoothly, so we hope that Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week creates an environment where you can open up and really get to know each other well.

McMurtry!



One of the most wonderful and unique aspects of Rice is the residential college system. You have the great honor of being the 13th matriculating class of McMurtry College. During your time at Rice, we hope that this will be your support system and your home. We are one of the newest colleges on campus, which means that each Murt gets the incredibly unique opportunity to contribute to the future of McMurtry through their ideas, involvement, and initiative (and we definitely have the nicest dorms on campus). New Students, remember this: We Are. Murt. It's not just a rallying call, it's an identity. We know there's no possible way to convey everything we'd like to impart on you through writing, but we made this book to give you an introduction to Rice and to McMurtry, as well as to answer a few of the questions you may have. Inside this book, you'll find the biographies of our core staff, affectionately called our McTeam (Magisters, Resident Associates, Resident Faculty Associate, and College Coordinator), biographies of the Advising Team, information about your new home, and much, much more! Use it as a resource, but feel free to contact us at any point during the summer (mcmurtryweek@gmail.com) - we are here for you!

For campus-wide information on O-Week, please visit success.rice.edu, "like" Student Success Initiatives at Rice University on Facebook, and check out the super cool 2021 Owlmanac. Before we leave you to your preparation, we ask that you make sure to bring the one thing most essential for this level of production - your open minds. Rice is an open space to explore and we want to help you make the most of it.

Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo,
Jazmine, Josselyn, and Rajpal
2021 McMurtry Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week Coordinators



Chapter Two: O-Week

What is O-Week?

An Orientation You'll Never Forget

This is an entire week dedicated to getting to know your peers, picking classes during holistic and intensive academic planning sessions, learning about Houston and its surroundings, and so much more. Orientation Week, or O-Week, is Rice's special way of welcoming New Students! When you come to Rice, you are randomly assigned into one of the eleven residential colleges. Each college has its own student O-Week Coordinators who spend the summer planning O-Week in order to create a welcoming and supportive orientation program. You will be placed in a group with eight to nine fellow New Students and will be guided by four to five Advisors, all of whom are current Rice students here to offer you advice and experience from both an academic and social standpoint. These groups are meant to be a source of continuous support, and you will be interacting and spending time with them during the many activities planned throughout the week and beyond. Don't worry, there will also be opportunities to meet everyone outside of your O-Week group! No matter how ridiculously excited, cautiously optimistic, secretly apprehensive, or just downright ecstatic you are about coming to Rice, the transition to a college lifestyle will probably seem a little overwhelming. The purpose of O-Week is to serve as an introduction to a new world of academics, residential colleges, Rice culture, and McMurtry culture. The social ties you build both within McMurtry and at Rice will shape your college experience just as much as your classes will, and O-Week jumpstarts those formations in a fun yet meaningful and memorable way. Essentially, this week is for you to learn about and explore the place you'll call home for the next few years, so kick back and relax! At the same time, there will be new opportunities, connections, and as much exploration as you want, so don't stress if you feel overwhelmed now, because you will have plenty of time during the year to get connected as well. While everyone's transition looks a little bit different, this is an experience you will share with your entire matriculating class, so have an open mind and get ready to have a ton of fun!!!



About the Theme

Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week Mission Statement



College is the land of many firsts, *far far away* from anything that you've experienced. As New Students at McMurtry College, you will embrace your strengths, acknowledge your weaknesses, and grow as Rice University students. No student's journey will be the same as your own, because here at Rice you will forge your own destiny, and create memorable and even life changing experiences.

During Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week you will meet new people, encounter new ideas, and expand your worldview. Just as Cinderella's fairy godmother transformed a pumpkin into a carriage with a simple "*Bibbidi bobbidi boo*", we believe that each and every one of you has the power to alter the many spheres of our college, university, and community with your diverse and expansive set of beliefs, morals, values, and experiences.

Your four year fairy tale at Rice will be full of fantasy and whimsy, magic, adventures, and treasure. But as we all know, College cannot be spelled without a couple of Ls. Even fairy tales aren't without their obstacles. We will all face our own big bad wolves and people eating our porridge, but at the end of the day, our goal is to show you that your college experience will be "just right".

One of the most important things we want you to know is don't be afraid to ask for help: even the bravest of heroes need to be rescued sometimes. During Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week, we want to encourage vulnerability and authenticity every step of the way. We recognize that not every moment can be a fairy tale ball, and for each of us, the clock will inevitably strike midnight (or that 11:59 PM deadline), but we want you all to know that you should never hesitate to ask for help nor to give help in return. No matter the trials and tribulations you may encounter, you won't be alone, as Rice has an abundance of resources available at your fingertips. Around each corner you will find a helper, like a talking cat, a fairy godmother, someone at the OAA or Wellbeing Center, or even an Advisor or O-Week sibling.

In the end, we hope that all of us Murts can write our own stories with the problems we face and successes we embrace, and that, by the end of Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week you will feel closer to your happily ever after.

Arrival & Move in!

Move-In Day | Sunday August 15th

Plan to arrive in the morning on Sunday, August 15th. The Coordinators will email you soon about exactly what time your floor will move in. Enter Rice through Entrance #1 (the main entrance), take your first right (after driving a little while), and follow the signs for McMurtry.

After unloading, we'll give you directions for where to park for the rest of the morning. As you drive towards McMurtry, Advisors will be outside holding signs and probably yelling your name. Don't worry, they are simply excited to finally meet you!

As the Advisors, and maybe some helpful football players, empty your car and start moving your stuff into the building (that's right - you don't have to do ANY work), you and your family will be introduced to our wonderful College Coordinator, Jackie, who will give you your keys and other important information. After you check that all your belongings are in your room, you will meet the Magisters of McMurtry College, Jenifer and Noe, who will welcome you to McMurtry and Rice. This will be their second year serving as Magisters, and they are soooo excited to meet you! You may have time before noon to sit in our beloved Yurt (what we call the McMurtry Commons) and mingle with your future classmates. Get to know these faces, because they are likely to become very good friends of yours in just a few weeks!

Around noon, there will be a buffet lunch for you, your family, and your Advisors. At 12:45 pm, it will be time to say a final goodbye to your parents, and head off to join your O-Week group for the first time. While your family and loved ones stay behind for a New Families Orientation, you will be starting one of the most jampacked and fun-filled weeks of your college career!!!



Directions to McMurtry

Arriving by Car

From the west on I-10E:

Take 610 South to 59 North and exit at Greenbriar. Follow Greenbriar to the light at Rice Boulevard. Turn left onto Rice Boulevard. Stay on Rice Boulevard until it becomes Sunset. Turn right on Main Street and take an immediate right into Rice campus using entrance #1.

From the east on I-10W:

Take the US 59 South exit. From US 59 South, take the Fannin Street exit and travel south on Fannin until you reach Sunset Boulevard. Take a right on Sunset and an immediate left onto Main Street. Turn right into Rice campus using entrance #1.

From the south on US-59N:

Exit at Greenbriar, stay on the frontage road, and turn right (south) on Greenbriar. Follow Greenbriar to the light at Rice Boulevard. Turn left onto Rice Boulevard. Stay on Rice Boulevard until it becomes Sunset. Turn right on Main Street and take an immediate right into Rice campus using entrance #1.

From the north on US-59S:

Take the Fannin Street exit and travel south on Fannin until you reach Sunset Boulevard. Take a right on Sunset and an immediate left onto Main Street. Turn right into Rice campus using entrance #1.



Arriving by Plane

George Bush (IAH) Airport:

Supershuttle (713-523-8888 or supershuttle.com) provides services to and from Intercontinental and fare is \$33 using discount code OWLS1 for being a Rice student! All departures are from the lower level baggage claim (southside area) where they have agents on duty. Or you can Uber, Lyft, or take a Taxi! Again, the address is 1605 Rice Blvd, Houston, TX 77005.

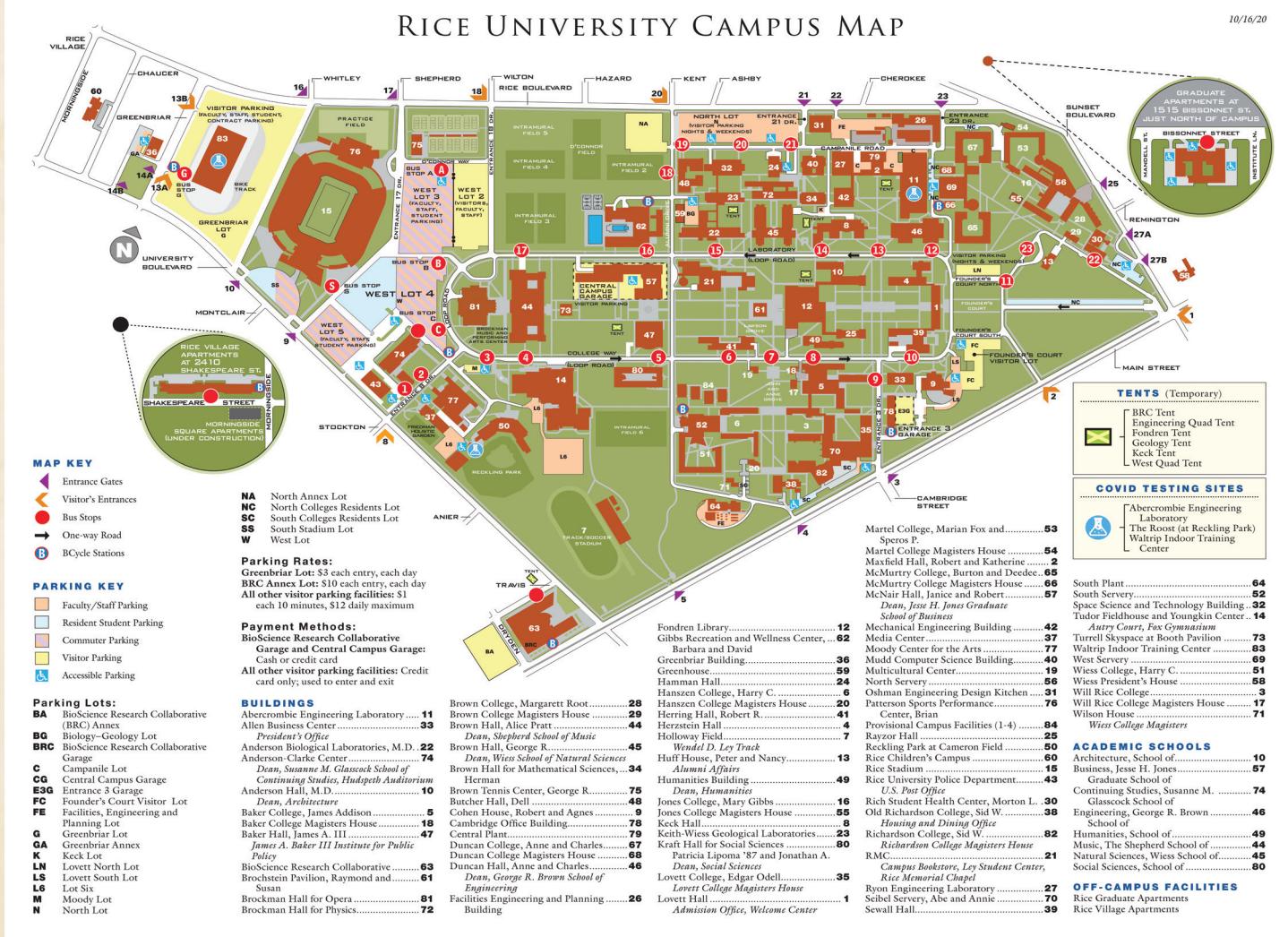
Houston Hobby (HOU) Airport:

The Airport Express also runs to the Medical Center and also leaves every 30 minutes starting at 6:10am. The fare is \$31 and will take 30-45 minutes. Supershuttle is also available at Hobby Airport and costs \$31 (again, use code OWLS1).

Campus Map

RICE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP

10/16/20



Where am...

The Building | McMurtry College

It's very exciting that McMurtry is Gold LEED certified (we have a low environmental impact!), but sometimes strange things will happen in our rooms. If your lights suddenly turn off for no reason, do not be alarmed -- it's because you were sitting so still that the sensor doesn't notice you anymore. Try waving your arms in front of it or opening and closing your door. If this is ineffective, you can also contact our SMR (Student Maintenance Representative). We will give out contact information for the SMR during O-Week and beyond.

Pod bathrooms are also very exciting. They're similar to bathrooms in Europe, with the toilet, shower, and sink all within the same room. That's right, no doors! But you'll notice that there is nothing to block the water in the shower from flowing into the bathroom. The best option is to ensure that you have been provided with a long enough shower curtain (if it's too short, call the SMR) and fold it in towards the shower to block water. Some students have also purchased a squeegee to clean up after-shower water messes.

Is your bed too low or too high? Would you like it lofted or bunked with your roommate's?

Call the SMR! They have the supplies and the know-how to take care of most of your rooming needs. If it is out of their area of expertise, you can put in a work order by emailing work@rice.edu! Just make sure to specify your college, room number, and request. If you are locked out of your room and it is after our College Coordinator's office hours, call RUPD (713-348-6000).



J Living?

Your Room

Coming in as New Students to McMurtry, you will most likely be placed in a double (one room shared between two people) with your roommate. Below, we've attached a floor plan to give you an idea of what your 12'x17' room will look like!



What Should I Bring?

Questions? Email mcmurtryoweek@gmail.com

Every Room has:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Twin XL bed & bedframe | <input type="checkbox"/> Dresser | <input type="checkbox"/> AC/heating unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desk & chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethernet port | <input type="checkbox"/> Private bathroom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Built-in closet & shelves | <input type="checkbox"/> Cable TV outlet | <input type="checkbox"/> Towel racks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trashcan & recycling bin | <input type="checkbox"/> Shower curtain | <input type="checkbox"/> Small desk drawer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Window blinds | <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper | |

McMurtry Has:

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free washers and dryer | <input type="checkbox"/> Trash bags | <input type="checkbox"/> WiFi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer lab | <input type="checkbox"/> Printer | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen on each floor with a refrigerator, stove, & microwave | | |

Supplies to Bring or Buy

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Supplies | <input type="checkbox"/> Desk Lamp | <input type="checkbox"/> Toiletries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Calculator (optional) | <input type="checkbox"/> Storage/organizers | <input type="checkbox"/> Pillows |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack | <input type="checkbox"/> Plate/bowl/utensils | <input type="checkbox"/> Reusable waterbottle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry hamper/bag | <input type="checkbox"/> Twin XL bedding | <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry detergent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Any medicine you need | <input type="checkbox"/> Towls/washcloths | <input type="checkbox"/> IDs (DL, passport, etc) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Up-to-date insurance card | <input type="checkbox"/> Laptop/Computer | <input type="checkbox"/> Umbrella/rain gear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Powerstrips/extension cords/chargers | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dress clothes (needed for O-Week) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothes you don't mind getting messy (O-Week can get messy) | | |

Optional or Miscellaneous Items

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mattress topper | <input type="checkbox"/> TV | <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iron/ironing board | <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet/rug | <input type="checkbox"/> Brita filter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gaming system | <input type="checkbox"/> Wall decorations | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethernet cable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coffee maker/blender | <input type="checkbox"/> Camera | <input type="checkbox"/> Bike and accessories |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other furniture | <input type="checkbox"/> Command Strips | <input type="checkbox"/> Broom or vaccuum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic tool set | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Printer | <input type="checkbox"/> Swim suit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mini-fridge and/or microwave (microwaves and refrigerators under 3.6 ft^3 are limited to one per person in a room) | | |

**To help with space, many students loft their beds to a medium height and place their dresser under it! Some even loft it to a bunkbed height and place desks, couches, or fridges underneath. You'll be able to loft your bed during O-Week or the school year with a request to our SMR. If you opt to loft to a bunkbed height, you will also receive a ladder and a railing (While supplies last)



Chapter Three: McMurtry College

Amenities

A: Commons (The Yurt) - The best commons on Rice's campus (named by FlavorWire as one of "The Most Beautiful College Dorms in the World!"). This expansive circular room functions as our cafeteria, theatrical venue, party room, and a variety of other things. There are also couch spaces on the sides and back of the commons where Murts can hang out or do homework. You will have many fond memories here over the course of your Rice career.

B: Music Room - If you feel the need to jam out and relieve some stress, McMurtry's music room is at the bottom of staircase A and is equipped with a piano and an organ. Feel free to store your own musical instruments there and rock out whenever you want.

C: Exercise Room/Game Room - This room includes free weights, a treadmill, a TV, and more for your convenient fitness needs! The other half of room includes ping pong, a billiards table, and vending machines, so essentially, there's something for everyone!

D: Computer Room - Need to print a paper? McMurtry's computer lab is conveniently located on the first floor with printers connected to both Macs and PC's for use 24/7.

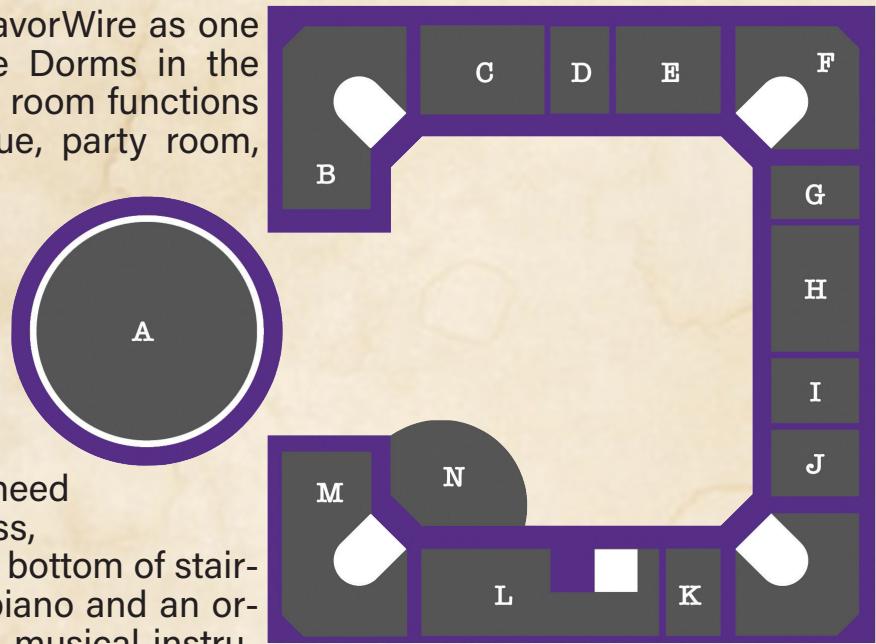
E: Innovation Space - A unique feature of McMurtry College, this room provides students with the means to explore ideas through artwork and design. There is a color printer, 3D printer, work tables, easels, and a vinyl cutter. Also computers with software for CAD, photo and video editing, music production, animation, etc.

F: Bike Closet - BEEEEEER BIIIIKE! We have an incredible bike room that houses the speed machines that will be used to dominate the other colleges during Beer Bike 2021. Get to know the place and start riding and preparing now!

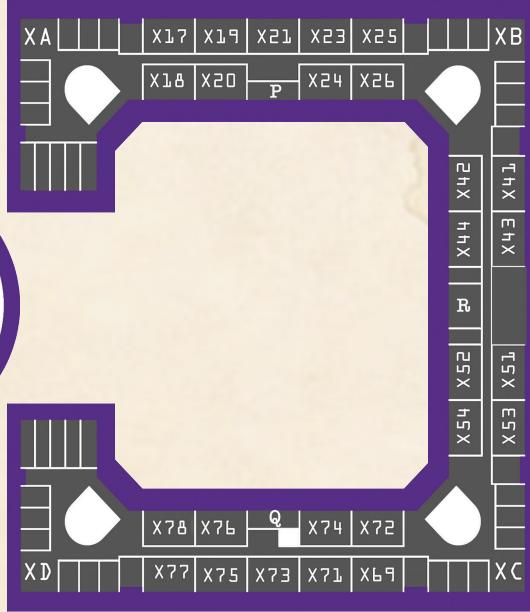
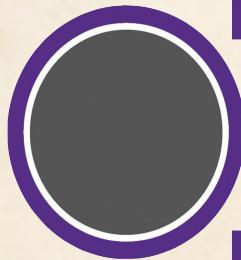
G: Laundry Room - Put away those quarters! All laundry rooms on campus are FREE. Grab some detergent and feel free to wash your clothes as often as you want. McMurtry's laundry room is located on the first floor next to staircase B (but seriously, wash your clothes please!).

H: McTeam Apartments (1st-3rd Floor) - Our truly amazing RFAs and RAs live here with their families and dogs. This is their space, but they are always welcoming to students stopping by (and are frequently looking for babysitters and dog sitters!).

I: Study Room 114 - This is a classroom-esque area, complete with tables and a whiteboard wall, for some quiet studying time outside of the hallways of the building. It's located on the first floor and is big enough to fit a ton of study buddies, snacks, and caffeine. Use this room; it will help your GPA.



@ McMurtry



J: Study Room 115 - Nicknamed the Murt Study Room, this is much more than a study room! McMurtry decided to create a unique, cozy little room of purple walls, a big table to study with friends, and squishy couches. This is a wonderful place to meet with a group or get some quiet study time in. Embrace the Murt room's simplistic ambiance and feel free to study here late into the night.

K: TV Lounge - There is a huge flat-screen TV in the lounge as well as a plethora of really comfortable couches, bunches of board games, and tables for snacks and hanging out. Take advantage of this room to play video games, watch movies, or watch Rice dominate baseball.

Replace "X" with your floor to find your room on the map above!

L: H&D Facilities - Housing and Dining cooks for us, takes out our trash, cleans our bathrooms and maintains our building overall. Be sure to thank these workers anytime you see them!

M: Jackie's office - Jackie is all about coordinating the college. Her office is where you can go to get your mail, pick up packages, buy envelopes/stamps, get a spare key in case you get locked out, and so much more. She is really the best.

N: The Quad - Our awesome quad has a bunch of picnic tables, an awesome patio, lovely trees, a swing, a basketball hoop, spikeball net, volleyball net, badminton net, and a wondrous barbecue pit. Expect to mill around, grill stuff, and generally have a great time enjoying our beautiful building alongside fellow Murts.

P: Study Room (2nd-4th Floors) - An open space with a table and chairs for anyone at McMurtry wanting a quiet place to study alone or with friends. On 5th floor, we have our beloved Burt's Tea House, which serves two purposes. This is the largest kitchen at McMurtry, with a fridge, oven, microwave, stove, sink, coffee maker and water filter. There is a cabinet that houses all of the cooking equipment. It also has couches and a coffee table for the more social aspect of this room. There is always free tea and coffee here, and you'll often find people gathering to talk about anything and everything.

Q: Kitchens (2nd-4th Floors) - Stocked with a fridge, oven, microwave, stove and sink, this space serves everyone on the floor. If you cook extras, there are always hungry people willing to help you out! On 5th floor, we have DeeDee's Lounge, which houses a large entertainment area with a flat screen TV, Wii, and other gaming consoles. A great place to prove your Super Smash Bros skills.

R: Lounge (4th Floor) - This is a new McMurtry amenities addition that includes tons of comfy couches, making it a great space to hang out at any time of the day!

History & Traditions

History: McMurtry's history reaches surprisingly far back to the very beginning of the residential college system. Although the most amazing college wasn't created until twelve years ago, our founders, Burt and Deedee McMurtry, served together on the student-faculty committee that created the original residential college system. The McMurtrys graduated with the Class of 1956, got married, and went on to become successful in venture capitalism in California. The founding couple's efforts towards establishing the college system came full circle on August 16, 2009, with the successful opening of Burton and Deedee McMurtry College -- your new home! Ever since then, each and every incoming class has worked to create traditions and culture that we hope will last long after we are gone. Though there are many traditions in place already, you all will become an essential part of creating even more through your contributions to McM.



Traditions

McRice: Even before its inception, McMurtry sent waves across campus with its first jack (Rice's term for a practical joke). The first O-Week Coordinators prefixed every imaginable sign and placard on campus with the letters "Mc" to officially mark Rice with Murt spirit. From McFondren Library to McMcMurtry, the possibilities are endless as we venture across Rice to proclaim Murt pride. Through McRice, McMurtry's first Orientation Week helped establish the college by bringing the freshmen class together and attracting many of the upperclassmen from other colleges who would eventually join its ranks.

"McMurtry is in-tents!": Our simple but proud beginnings were epitomized by the tents that reigned over the first McMurtry O-Week while we waited for the completion of our commons. This gave rise to the double-entendre cheer, "McMurtry is intense (in tents)!" The tents eventually disappeared as our beautiful circular commons (affectionately known as the "yurt," because of the uncanny resemblance to the Mongol dwelling) replaced them, and McMurtry was well on its way to glory.

Bananas: We cheer on Murts with loud screams of "McMurtry is bananas!" Murts in banana suits have fondly been adopted as our unofficial mascot, and if you ever see people in banana suits at music festivals or events, don't be surprised if you recognize their faces. (Our Banana suits are also the only non-Beer Bike shirt attire allowed at Beer Bike!)

Beer Bike: Our first Beer Bike exhibition against Duncan College ended with a new tradition being born: winning. In our first full Beer Bike, after only two weeks of practice, our Women's Bike Team finished second and our single McMurtry alumnus valiantly biked all ten segments and chugged all ten canisters allowing us to finish our first full alumni race beating Duncan, Martel and Sid. We also added on to this winning culture by winning the Beer Women's Race last year (it was epic, our bikers lapped the other teams!).

Conch: The conch shell appears on our crest and is a reference to the fact that the McMurtry name derives from the Scottish "Son of the Sea Navigator." As sons and daughters of Murt, the conch has become the most important symbol of the unity that exists within our community. When this instrument of glory is blown, every member of the college lets out the ear-piercing scream of "MURRRRRRRRRRT!" in response. This call to battle embodies the intensity of McMurtry, and reminds us of our strong community and bond.



Powderpuff: Combined with Will Rice, our college reigned victorious in our first ever appearance in the Powderpuff championship. Since our first championship, McMurtry hasn't slowed down. We've already made multiple appearances in the championship including championship wins during the Fall 2017 & 2018 seasons! Powderpuff has now become a common gathering for many Murts and a great way to show our Murt pride.

McWill: For its first year of life, McMurtry shared its building with Will Rice College, whose new wing was under construction. As Will Rice and McMurtry became roommates, the residential college culture was shared and a sisterhood was born. To this day, every new class of Murts and Will Ricers participates in the tradition known as McWill during O-Week, where the bond between the two colleges is rekindled and new friendships begin. The first McMurtry freshmen class coalesced into an especially strong group, and within two months, the university sent out invitations to select upperclassmen to join McMurtry. Many months and agonizing decisions later, McMurtry had accepted three classes of transfers to join the original Murts in a now full McMurtry college. Then, in the fall of 2010, those first Murts and new upperclassman transfers joined together to greet the newest and largest class of McMurtry New Students. Roughly one hundred and fifteen new Rice Owls joined McMurtry that year, marking the beginning of our college's accepting and unstoppable spirit.

Traditions (continued)

Burts: Another McMurtry tradition we value falls more on the intellectual side of life. Burt's Teahouse was established in 2011 as a dedication to our founder as well as a super chill outlet for Murts. A coffee maker and a collection of teapots, hot chocolate, flavored teas, coffee, all the fixings like honey, creamer, and sugar, and disposable cups are stocked in the fifth floor kitchen (adjacent to the gorgeous view of downtown Houston from the sundeck) awaiting any Murt who wants anything from an evening of simple talk and relaxation to a deeply philosophical conversation.

Cookies: Our spirit of inclusivity extends farther than our own college, as shown in another Murt tradition -- Murt love for Baker 13. As part of our Baker 13 defense, we bake cookies for the runners and pass them out as the runners come through the final college on the course. We offer these sweets and get a peaceful truce in return from the exhausted runners.

McScottish Night: As members of one of the newest colleges, Murts possess an opportunity not as readily available to other Rice students: the opportunity to innovate and create new traditions for their college. In most recent years, our Resident Faculty Associates and the latest generation of Murts spearheaded the inception of McScottish Night, a uniquely McMurtry night dedicated to celebrating our Scottish heritage. The night has historically featured Scottish delicacies, student-led kilt-making, a bagpipe procession, the burning of a homemade Wickerman, and its agenda is only growing!

Murt-Sunday Sundays: an up-and-coming tradition, Murt-Sunday Sundays is a delicious tradition on Sundays in Burts Teahouse in which the culinary committee provides a sunday bar for Murts! Some Sundays will have themes, like "McMurtry is Bananas", which would mean banana splits! (There may soon be a war arising with Duncan, who has Thirsty Thursdays where they do milkshakes - but hey, we already know Murt will win that battle!)

Murtdays: Happy Murtday is a fairly new McMurtry tradition started by our most senti RA, Tamara. She hosts a gathering each month for all Murts who have birthdays in a particular month, orders their favorite treats, and makes a custom playlist with their favorite songs to play during the party. Aside from celebrating your birthdays (even our often-forgotten summer birthdays), Murtdays is a great way to meet new Murts across class years, friend groups, cultures, and areas of study. It's a special way to build a sub-community within our McMurtry community. This year she plans to host Murtdays by zodiac sign so all you Leos out there, get hype because you'll be first!

Cultivating New Traditions: While we prize each of these existing traditions as a part of the Spirit of McMurtry, the greatest characteristic of McMurtry is its inclusive nature. We value our differences, and Murts can't be defined by any one type or personality. McMurtry will always be a place where diversity is valued and different opinions are welcomed. McMurtry has already established an open attitude towards people of all backgrounds, and we must channel this spirit towards making a better college. In his charge to the college, Burt McMurtry urged us to maintain a collaborative approach in all things. This means that everyone's contributions are valued and desired. This is a great freedom of our college, as the time is ripe for new traditions to be created, both during O-Week and beyond. As part of the 13th matriculating class, you have been given the incredible opportunity to help shape our ever-expanding, ever-changing college. Be ready, for you will be an unforgettable part of McMurtry history.



Socioeconomic Initiatives

Starting in Spring 2017, McMurtry College has committed to making financial accessibility an utmost priority and to be a leader in the socioeconomic inclusivity initiative at Rice.

The college recognize that every Murt's financial situation and needs are different and that the residential college experience should be accessible to all. McMurtry implemented an initiative to address socioeconomic inequality with regards to social life at our college, namely to make all college events and Murtchandise financially accessible.

The prices of McMurtry events (e.g. McSkate in winter, McFloat in spring) and Murtchandise are capped at \$5/event or \$5/merchandise. Beer Bike shirts, which are required for participation in Beer Bike, are free.

The Magisters established the McMurtry's Socioeconomic Inclusivity (SEI) Fund so students can opt into extra funding. This fund is intended to cover ground we may miss with blanket subsidization, to offer extra support to students in difficult circumstances, and to avoid limiting students to college social events. The SEI Fund application can be found at:

Q&A From the Magisters About the SEI Fund:

What's the McMurtry SEI Fund?

Its a fund designed to help students overcome various financial barriers that hinder engagement in the McMurtry college experience.

Ok, that's nice, but a little vague...what specifically can a student request funds for?

Well, it's hard to define specifically, but below are a few examples:

(note: this is not an exhaustive list)

1. Purchasing Murtch or expenses related to McMurtry activities, such as cleats for intramural sports.
2. Funds for a dinner out with friends
3. Academic related expenses (textbooks, course supplies, etc.)
4. Health related expenses such as co-pays
5. Replacing broken technology needed for school

That sounds good to me, but what if my needs aren't on this list...

That's ok - apply anyway - we (the Magisters) know needs vary and somethings are hard to categorize, but ultimately, we'd rather be in a position to help than not know that a student is in need. We have funded requests as varied as pod storage and car parts, so please don't hesitate to ask.

Wonderful - is there a cap or a range that a request should fall within?

The annual budget for the SEI fund is \$1500, so to ensure the fund lasts, most requests funded are typically between \$50 and \$150. However, its ALWAYS better to ask. Even if we aren't able to fund a request, we may be able to help navigate a request through the Rice Access and Opportunity Portal or other resources on campus.

What is the process..?

Fill out this form, and we (the Magisters) will get back to you in 24-48 hours let you know the status and, if approved, information on how to receive funds. If it's your first time requesting, we might ask to meet with you for a couple of minutes, just to make sure we know exactly what you need and how best to fund your request. Our goal is to provide it quickly and discreetly. We have had a few issues with timeliness in the past, but are now notified immediately when a request is made. If it is something really important and urgent, feel free to come knock on our door.

What if I ask for too much? What if my needs exceed \$150?

Request anyway!!! - if the ask exceeds what we can provide, we will do our best help you connect with other resources at Rice and act on your behalf.

All applications go directly to the Magisters only. All personal information shared throughout the application process will remain confidential and will not be released to any student. The form is always accessible via the McMurtry website at <http://mcmurtry.rice.edu> (check the menu for "Financial inclusivity"), in the signature of Jenifer's email, and directly at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdumVBi5BTTePDHXPLip0LyIDZZeB3DGrms-DVUVRWeoXaVdGQ/viewform?c=0&w=1>

Beyond the college, many Rice organizations and departments offer additional support and resources for financially needy students, from summer study abroad scholarships to assistance purchasing professional clothing. For example, the Center for Career Development refers students needing professional clothing. The Student Success Initiatives Office has a pantry that is open certain days of the week in order for students to get food/bathroom necessities. Please inquire with the McTeam and/or the related department -- just because you haven't heard about a resource doesn't mean it doesn't exist!

Campus-Wide SEI Resources

Rice Access and Opportunity Portal: The Access and Opportunity Portal will consider those requests from students experiencing financial challenges and are seeking support to allow them to participate in opportunities related to their academic, professional, social or interpersonal development. Requests for assistance are accepted on a rolling basis. No limit to number of requests. Response time: 72 hours. Small "interview"/discussion with SSI required.

<https://aop.rice.edu/application>

Dean of Undergraduates Emergency Funds: Emergency Funding Requests should be made to the Dean of Undergraduates office for those financial needs which require urgent, immediate attention and in which the undergraduate student requesting support is actively in crisis. Because these requests will be reviewed immediately upon receipt, only those requests requiring same day resolution will be considered. Although not an exhaustive list, requests that could be considered to be an emergency and eligible for funding include:

Request for rent needed immediately due to impending eviction

Funding for co-pays or upfront costs associated with emergency surgery

<https://aop.rice.edu/dou-emergency-funding>

Getting to Know the McTeam

What Is the McTeam?



Each college has their own “adult team”, called A-Team for short, but here at McMurtry, we have our own special name for them-- the McTeam. The McTeam is McMurtry’s version of one of Rice’s most visible and helpful group of advisors and mentors. It consists of 7 people, of which all but one, our college coordinator, live in the college. In addition to being members of our McTeam, many also work at Rice in some capacity. There are 2 Residential Associates (RAs), 2 Resident Faculty Associates (RFAs), 2 Magisters, and a College Coordinator. Among the McTeam there are several professors, administrators, advisors, and, our favorite: dogs and children! The McTeam is a great resource to go to for personal or academic advice. They are also a group of great people to become friends with! You can find them down the hall in the college, at the Magisters’ house, in classrooms and offices around campus and even in West Servery for most meals. To become part of the McTeam, each member had to apply to the program and must be reevaluated every few years at the end of each of their terms. You will get to meet them early on during O-Week, and they love when you say hello to them around campus or at other McMurtry events! They have helped many of us in unimaginable ways, and they are truly invested in your wellbeing.

Meet Our Magisters

McMurtry Magisters | Jenifer Bratter and Noe Perez

We are Jenifer Bratter and Noe Perez, the Magisters of McMurtry College, and we are thrilled to welcome you to the community! We feel the main ingredient to a successful college career is finding your people and developing a community. We look forward to helping students becoming connected to the wonderful community that is McMurtry. Jenifer is a Full Professor in the Sociology Department whose research focuses on race and ethnicity and their significance for the ways individuals identify, form relationships, and experience well-being. She has been professor at Rice since 2006 and sincerely enjoys teaching and mentoring the creative and intellectually dazzling graduate and undergraduate students of the Rice community. Noe is a researcher with expertise in education and community health. He loves carpentry, cooking, volunteering, kickboxing, and biking. Jenifer was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York and Noe hails from south Texas, known as "the Valley". We met at University of Texas at Austin in the graduate program in Sociology. As a first year Grad student, Noe stole Jenifer's desk in the teaching assistant lounge. We became fast friends, eventually started dating, and later married. After moving across the country together, we decided to settle in Houston, where Jenifer started teaching at University of Houston and then moved over to Rice. We have two boys: Ricardo, 16, and Sam, 11. Our kids love watching movies, playing video games, and being creative. Ricardo's passion is



American Ninja Warrior and its Japanese counterpart Sasuke the obstacle course shows. He was on the first season of American Ninja Warrior Junior under the name, "The Origami Ninja" and continues to compete in ninja leagues. Sam loves computer programming, dancing and martial arts, especially Brazilian capoeira, which is almost a perfect blend of the two. They both love getting to know Murts. You will likely see Sam on McMurtry's Basketball court or Ricardo climbing on nearly anything to practice his ninja skills. We love being a part of the McMurtry community and have enjoyed bringing some of our favorite hobbies to the students on campus.

We can't wait to meet you all – Welcome to McMurtry!



Welcome from the RFAs

Resident Faculty Associate | Robin Paige & Sergio Chávez

Welcome! We are so excited to welcome you to McMurtry! This is our first year as the Resident Faculty Associates at McMurtry and we look forward to getting to know you. We are Robin, Sergio, Abriel, Aarón and Missy the cat. Robin and Sergio are both originally from Northern California. Robin grew up just outside of San Francisco and Sergio grew up in the Salinas Valley. We both completed our undergraduate degrees in sociology at UC Davis, but we didn't meet until we ended up as graduate students in the same program at Cornell University. We completed our PhDs in Development Sociology in 2008. Between the two of us we have lived, worked, and conducted research in a variety of places including Tijuana, Central Mexico, South Africa, New York, California, and North Carolina. Robin is an Associate Teaching Professor and the Director of Rice's Center for Teaching Excellence. She came to Rice in 2012 and teaches courses on globalization, food systems, and gender in the Department of Sociology. Her research focuses on gender, food systems, and unpaid labor. Sergio is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and came to Rice in 2010. His research focuses on internal and international migration, labor markets, social networks, and the border. He teaches courses on social inequality and work and occupations. Abriel and Aarón are our little munchkins. Abriel is six years old and loves swimming, riding her bike, and going to the Zoo (her favorite animal is the Cheetah). Aarón is four years old. He loves his cat Missy, motorcycles, basketball, and soccer. Missy is our 12-year-old cat who thinks she is a dog – she loves meeting new people. She would love nothing more than getting pets from new friends. As a family we love spending time outdoors, traveling, eating and cooking food. Robin loves reading books and listening to podcasts, lifting weights, cycling, and running. Sergio loves photography, movies, grilling, and exploring new food and restaurants in Houston. Please feel free to reach out to us and come by to say hello anytime. This is our second gig living in with students in the residential colleges and we are excited to be back!



Welcome from the 2nd Floor RA

Resident Associate | Tamara Cobb

Hello and welcome! I am Tamara, the RA who lives on the 2nd floor – but no matter which floor you live on, consider me your RA. I am the Student Services Administrator in the Dean's Office here at Rice (yes, it was me reminding you to complete your new student forms haha) and was born and raised in Houston. I have an MA in Sociology and love learning about human variation in every form – cultural, familial, personality, life choices, etc. This means I will want to learn all about your life story, from the mundane to the deep!

I have many hot takes on food. I hate the 5 C's: chocolate, cinnamon, caramel, coconut, and coffee (I hope this isn't a dealbreaker for you) but love strawberry, guava, passionfruit, vanilla, and Funfetti! My hobbies include nature photography, color consulting, wildlife and outdoor adventure shows and books, and games of all sorts – bowling, board games, video games, you name it. I enjoy reading, curating relaxing music playlists (ask me about my playlists for each day of the week), travel planning, and finding new, random Netflix series to watch.

Helping keep things mad litty at all times are my daughters Seraphina, Aura, and Lila. Seraphina is a rising 3rd grader and will be your chatty best friend and insist you join dance-offs, sing-offs, games, dress-up, long walks to the servery and commons, and anything else that strikes her fancy. Aura is a rising 1st grader and enjoys running, jumping, climbing, and is a mathematics GAWD. Lila is in Pre-K and enjoys sing-alongs, marble runs, dollhouses, using people as furniture, and crashing Murt ball games in the quad. I look forward to getting to know all of you and The Gems (the shorthand collective name for my daughters) can't wait to play with you!



Welcome from the 3rd Floor

RA

Resident Associate | Deirdre Hunter

Welcome to McMurtry! I am Deirdre Hunter. I live on 3rd with my two pups, Sandy and Nexus. We are thrilled to welcome you with open arms and paws to the best College. I am a Lecturer of Engineering Design at the Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen (OEDK). In addition to teaching engineering design courses, I mentor students in the Sustaining Excellence in Research (SER) Scholars program, and teach in two Rice summer programs – Summer Experience in Engineering Design (SEED) and Rice Emerging Scholars Program (RESP). I received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Syracuse University and a PhD in Engineering Education from Virginia Tech (Go Hokies!). My research has focused on developing learner-centered environments in engineering classrooms, and teaching and learning metacognitive skills. I love thinking deeply and philosophizing about higher education systems and learning more broadly.



Some of my hobbies include: playing games (from cards and board games, to organized sports and wacky competitions, I am game!), cheering on our Houston sports teams (Go Astros!!), drinking coffee (totally addicted, and no shame!) and finding great conversations. But most of all, I'm passionate about people. For me, it has always been more about who I am sharing moments with, than what I am doing in that moment. My personal life vision is "to build inclusive community" and

I think every person has a deep desire to be known. Knowing someone starts with listening, and when we are truly known we begin to feel like we belong to a shared experience. So, let's sit together over a meal or a cup of coffee; I am eager to hear your story!!



Sandy is a dachshund-beagle mix. She was born on the streets in Mexico, crazy story you should ask me about sometime! She loves naps, sun bathing, belly rubs, and doesn't miss a meal!! Nexus is an Australian shepherd mix. He struggles with anxiety (can you relate?), but loves spending time with students, giving hugs, and long walks. If you ever need some puppy time you can find us in 347, just knock!

Meet Our College Coordinator

College Coordinator | Jackie Carrizales



My name is Jackie Carrizales and I am the McMurtry College Coordinator. My office is on the ground floor right outside the door to the commons. I love visiting with students and hearing about what is going on with their lives, so please stop by any time to hang out or just to say Hi! There are some very comfortable couches and chairs, and I don't even mind if you take a nap. Plus, I have candy! I have been the coordinator here since the week before O-Week in 2015, but I have been an associate at McMurtry since it opened in the Summer of 2009. I was so excited to be able to be a part of a college from the beginning and see the start of all of the traditions that make each college unique. I can't believe that I'm lucky enough to spend every day here now and get paid for it! I have worked for Rice since 2009. Before coming to McMurtry, I worked for 6 years in the Office of Admission. I am married to Marc and we have three sons, Max, Luke, and Leo. We also have two dogs, Mikey and Azura. I am a huge Astros & Rockets fan and will happily talk sports with you at any time.

Things you can do in Jackie's office:

- Buy stamps & get envelope
- Pick up mail and packages
- Use the staplers, packing tape, scissors, shredder, etc
- Get friendly jabs about liking a sports team other than the Astros
- Borrow an extra room key
- Do homework
- Take a study break
- Get a hug & relax with your pals

President & CJ

McMurtry College President | Rachel Moore

Hello and welcome to McMurtry! My name is Rachel, and I am the McMurtry college president. I am so excited to get to know you this fall! College can be a LOT... it's a lot of work, but it is also a time to make a lot of memories with the amazing people you meet over the next few years and the awesome opportunities you have while you are here. McMurtry is here both as a place to relax, make friends, and have a good time and as a resource. There are academic fellows to help you study, PAAs to help with your schedule, and people who care about you to help get you through life. And after all the hard work is done there are events with food and games and some really off the wall themes (a Scottish festival, a GIANT cooking pot in our quad, Super Smash Bros, and Avatar the Last Airbender come to mind). But McMurtry is just getting started. We love new ideas and new voices. McMurtry changes with ever new student because you are an important part of our community. I absolutely cannot wait to meet you!

Welcome to McMurtry, your new home!



McMurtry College Chief Justice | Serene Lee

Hey there, New Students! Congratulations on your acceptance to Rice, and welcome to McMurtry College! My name is Serene Lee, I am a rising senior studying English and Business, and I would like to congratulate you on your entry into the best college at Rice, period. Obviously, I'm only slightly biased when I say that McMurtry is the best college, but our Beer Bike winning streak over the past two years clearly puts McMurtry above the rest. Be prepared to experience every single college cliche possible: late-night food runs, basketball in the quad, acapella performances--you name it, we got it! Just don't forget to bring your banana clothing item of choice.



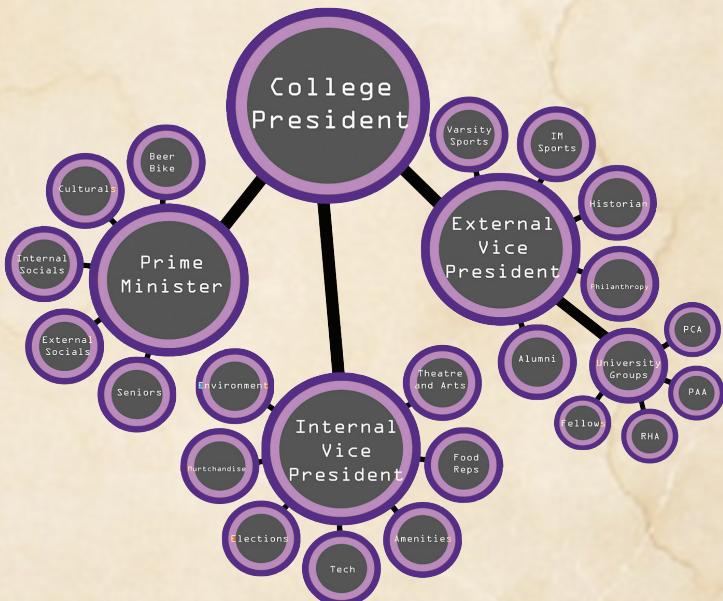
The McMinistry

McMurtry Student Government

At Rice, all 11 residential colleges have an internal, student-run government designed to deal with various aspects of the college.

At McMurry, our student government is known as the McMinistry. Within the McMinistry exists the Executive Council (EC), which includes the President, Internal Vice President, External Vice President, Prime Minister, Secretary, and Treasurer (all of whom are elected in the spring). The EC conducts various functions, including running the McMurry Town Hall meetings, overseeing the committee system, sending out announcements, reserving rooms at our college, creating the budget, and much more. In addition to the EC, there are nine Hall Representatives (including one off campus representative) and one At-Large Representative. There are also three First Year Representatives who are elected by first year students in the fall (and you can be one!). Hall Representatives are members elected to represent their respective hall within the McMinistry, while the At-Large Representative, represents the interests of McMurry College as a whole and organizes meetings between the Hall Representatives, collectively known as the People's Council (PC). With the exception of the President, all of the previously mentioned positions are voting members of the McMinistry.

The rest of the McMInistry is made up of non-voting members, including the Chief Justice, the Parliamentarian, the Historians, the SA Senator, the RPC Representative, and the Honor Council Representative. Many of the events that are planned by and for McMurry students are organized through the various committees. Getting involved in a committee is a great way to get involved with McMurry government as a New Student. Additionally, the McMInistry meets bi-weekly for Town Hall meetings that are open to everyone. Town Hall meetings discuss current McMurry issues, hold voting sessions, and are an open forum for any Murt to voice their concerns (free snacks too!). These meetings are where you will learn what is going on at McMurry, so make sure to attend and stay involved!



McMinistry '21-'22

President - Rachel Moore
Internal Vice President - Alyson Resnick
External Vice President - Jennifer Adams
At-Large Rep - Damian Gonzalez
Prime Minister - Julia Engelhardt
Secretaries - Kate Mischlich & Grace Zhou
Treasurers - Nate Miller & Vidal Saenz
Chief Justice - Serene Lee

College Associates

College Associates are faculty, staff, and community members who are a vital part of the residential college and are committed to engaging, mentoring, and serving as a resources for students. Associates get involved in the college in a wide variety of ways ranging from casual meals, sporting events, and social gatherings, to lectures, career panels, and theatrical performances, all with the goal of enriching intellectual, cultural, and social life at McMurtry. There is 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 first year, 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 stop, introduce yourself, and take advantage of the opportunity. You never know when your connections with these professional and wonderful individuals will help you in the days to come!





Chapter Four: --- *The O-Week Team*

Who's Who?

Who is/are...?

Your O-Week Group?

Your O-Week group consists of 8-9 other New Students, 4 upperclassmen Advisors (one will be a Co-Advisor and one may be an Affiliate) who are beyond excited to welcome you to the best residential college on campus! All throughout O-Week, you will be preparing for registration and academic life at Rice and interacting with the rest of your incoming class at McMurtry, but your O-Week group is designed primarily to give you more of a personal support system during the week and throughout the year. From playing crazy ice-breakers, learning about each other's interests and passions, sharing possible course schedules, or making late night food runs, you will soon discover that your bond as an O-Week group runs deep. Be prepared for lots of fun & encouragement from the peers in your group. Don't be worried if your Advisors seem very enthusiastic when you drive up for move in day -- it's a sign of affection.

Advisors?

Advisors are a diverse group of students from McMurtry who are so enthusiastic about welcoming you to Rice that they don't mind returning here almost two full weeks before classes start to help you move in and start your time at Rice! These fantastic people have been hand-selected to act as your guides throughout O-Week; they'll make sure you get to all activities and meetings, answer any questions you might have (or direct you to someone who can answer them), expose you to Rice's academics and student life, introduce you to the McMurtry culture, and serve as all-around resources. One thing that all Advisors have in common is their desire to help you have the best experience possible at Rice, so they'll continue to be resources for you long after O-Week is over and may very well become some of your closest friends.

Co-Advisors?

Co-Advisors make up about a fourth of our team and are students who are equally friendly and enthusiastic about welcoming you to Rice, but they hail from other residential colleges!

Co-Advisors love McMurtry so much that they choose to join McMurtry's O-Week as an ambassador of their home college. In addition to having the qualities of an Advisor, they can help show you Rice beyond the beautiful wood-panels of McMurtry and bring a little bit of their own college's culture and customs along with them. They are wonderful resources in helping you to branch out and explore other colleges!

Coordinators	the President
The three students at each college who oversee and prepare O-Week for your class. We've been planning this for the last 7 months!	The President of McMurtry College's internal government for the upcoming school year!
PAAs (Peer Academic Advisors)	the CJ (Chief Justice)
Student experts on Rice academics who will help you with all your class scheduling during O-Week!	They're your resource on the justice system, Student Code of Conduct, and other regulations such as the Alcohol Policy!
DFs (Diversity Facilitators)	RHAs (Rice Health Advisors)
The run educational diversity workshops and are here to make sure you feel comfortable being yourself!	They're your resource on wellbeing at Rice and how to be the healthiest and happiest self you can be!
Gophers	Photographers
The Coordinators' best friends. They'll go get anything, from sharpies to body paint, to make O-Week a smoother experience for you!	They are responsible for documenting your O-Week with pictures!
Athlete Affiliate	Videographer
A student-athlete Advisor who is around to make sure our athletes' situations, both during O-Week and after, are understood and accommodated for!	They'll catch all your excitement and adventures during the week, so you can look back on the blur of O-Week!
NS (New Students)	
The incoming class! It's you!	



Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week Coords



Jazmine Castillo
Junior
Biosciences,
Integrative Biology
Concentration
Burnet, TX



Josselyn Munoz
Junior
Cognitive Sciences
Laredo, TX



Rajpal Bal
Junior
Managerial Studies,
Social Policy Analysis,
Sport Analytics
McKinney, TX

As O-Week Coordinators, it is our job to pour our heart and soul into creating your Orientation Week. We, your three Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week Coordinators, have been planning for your arrival since well before you were placed in McMurtry. In fact, we have been working since January to select your Advisors and your Co-Advisors. This summer we have prepared this book for you, matched you with a roommate, and carefully placed you into an O-Week group. We also planned the majority of O-Week events you will be participating in at McMurtry. One of the best things about Rice is that the administration places a great deal of trust in students (i.e. us) to run things. In turn, we work extremely hard to make sure that you have a smooth transition into Rice, both academically and socially. Your Advisors will be your guides for most of O-Week, but we'll largely be working to make sure everything runs smoothly. We are elated that you will be joining us at McMurtry and we are beyond excited to meet you. See you August 15!

Jazmine Castillo | Coordinator | McMurtry

Hailing from Burnet, TX, Jazmine Castillo is the best person you could have ever gotten as an O-Week coord. When she's not grinding doing research or helping transform Murt into THE BEST college at Rice, catch her modeling her ever changing hairstyles. By the end of the semester, her bathroom will be stained with hair dye, so if you're counting on recognizing her you'll have to resign yourself to a rotating rainbow of hair colors. Despite her always changing appearance, you can rely on the fact that she is consistently there for her friends. Go grab a snack from her always-stocked snack corner (and maybe hang around and grab some coffee), or come watch a movie with her (she'll always vote for a scary movie so be warned), and you'll understand why she's been branded "the mom friend". Whether you want to talk about the Marvel universe (check out her Iron Man coffee maker), just sit together and scroll through TikTok, or need someone to cry to, Jazmine will be there, no matter the time of day (in fact, some believe that she's actually nocturnal with how many all-nighters she pulls). But don't worry, she also knows how to have a good time, whether that's late night adventures and food runs or chilling around campus. Jazmine is the kindest person you will ever meet and will become your friend no matter what. She works harder than anyone else to help out everyone she can, overcomes any form of adversity she faces, and WILL make Murt your home away from home.

- Jonathan De La Cruz & Morgan Gage, McMurtry '23

Josselyn Munoz | Coordinator | McMurtry

Once upon a time, there was an O-Week Coordinator who was heard before she was seen and who filled her palace with beans and cheese. Her name is Josselyn Muñoz. Though we can't say that this princess isn't afraid of a horde of caterpillars, we CAN tell you that she isn't afraid to get her hands dirty: you can always count on Josselyn to put 110% into everything she does, from academics to McMurtry events to being an amazing best friend. Josselyn's personality and interests are loud, loving, and contagious!: An avid Marvel fan, she showcases her love for Captain America whole-heartedly and will happily fill you in on the most random MCU (Marvel Cinematic Universe) facts or invite you to a Marvel movie marathon. You can spot her anywhere on campus and know it's her from her stunning sense of style (but it's impossible to beat her to a compliment-- she's quick

to recognize and comment on the best in others!). Spontaneous in nature, Josselyn will likely prank you at some point, but don't worry--you'll catch on. Overall, you're lucky to have Josselyn as one of your coordinators. Her reliability, approachability, kindness, and fun-loving nature is straight from a fairy tale, and we're so excited for you to meet her!

-Shreya Jain, Camille Villar, McMurtry '23

Rajpal Bal | Coordinator | McMurtry

IT'S RAJPAL BAL!!! Top academics have repeatedly cited Rajpal as the quintessential social sciences guru, big name on campus, professional networker, and most recently your O-Week 2021 coordinator! Business professional by day and Tiger Noodle House fiend by night, Rajpal always makes time to hang out with everyone. Upon your first interaction with him, you'll instantly discover just a few of the many admirable qualities he possesses. He's a hard-working student, easy-going friend, HYPE man (let's goooo), and Houston cuisine connoisseur, and his wide array of interests and open-heartedness make certain that you've already got a new pal and new connection on LinkedIn after O-Week. You can talk to him about anything, from sports and finance to philosophy and life, or if you're in a listening mood, check out his 300+ episode (!!!) podcast on Spotify. Rajpal has been selected as your O-Week coordinator not only because of his unmatched sincerity but also because his personality brings out the best in those around him. His ability to mesh with so many people is no surprise.

It simply stems from genuine kindness and contagious chill vibes. It has been a pleasure getting to know Mr. Bal, and I am personally excited for you all to experience that same joy very soon! Get excited because Rajpal will make your life feel like a movie during O-Week. You'll have not only this amazing week to think fondly of for the rest of your life, but also a friend.

-Brandon Khek, McMurtry '23

O-Week PAAs



Maria Hancu
Sophomore
Biosciences, Biochemistry Concentration
Poolesville, MD



Luey Garcia
Junior
Economics
San Antonio, TX



Cassidy Kurita
Senior
Biochemistry and Cell Biology
Houston, TX



Nickolas Chen
Senior
Political Science
Jewett, TX

Maria Hancu | PAA | McMurtry

To all my pre-meds out there, Maria is your girl. A Biochem sophomore from Poolesville, Maryland, she's got you covered with EMT, research experience (THE WORMS), and crazy orgo synthesis problems that yup, she makes up in her free time. Yes, she's a total nerd – but she's also the best person to scream Taylor Swift with, a Game of Thrones fanatic, and her love affair with bread puts The Notebook to shame. On most weekdays, Maria can be found out of bed by 7:30 AM due to her freakish internal alarm clock, which she gets made fun of for almost as much as her 5'1" stature. Of her many talents, the ones to best exploit are weight-lifting lessons in the Murt gym (you bet she deadlifts 175), guided tours of the art museum (she knows her art history), and hugs whenever you need them. Best of all, she'll support you in whatever academic path you desire while keeping it real. She's always there to listen, BUT you may want to plug your own ears if WAP ever comes on because you know she knows Every. Single. Word.

- Sophia Peng, McMurtry '24

Cassidy Kurita | PAA | McMurtry

Who is one of the most approachable and helpful people with the best dad jokes you ask? Well, the girl that has lived in 5 different states. The girl with infinite anime suggestions. The girl who studies Biochemistry and Cell Biology with a minor in Medical Humanities. The girl who sleeps by day, and works as a CVS pharmacy technician by night. The girl with the funniest #foryou page. She's incredibly smart and her one passion is to help as many people as possible. So don't be shy and come get to know the barb queen Cassidy Kurita! P.S. don't ask her to drive you anywhere, because it is likely she still hasn't gotten her drivers license by the time you are reading this.

- Juan De La Garza, McMurtry '22

Luey Garcia | PAA | McMurtry

Luey Garcia is a junior majoring in Economics from San Antonio, Texas. Luey is pre-law and occasionally contemplates how one day he'll conquer the world—benevolently, of course. He's a Murt, but you can find him plenty of places besides McMurtry College—such as anywhere on campus that has either Smash Bros. Ultimate, a pinball machine, music (especially jazz), or secret hacks to scoring high on the LSAT. Do not ask him about the Mongol Empire HIST class he took last year, unless you want to experience the true meaning of time dilation. Do, however, ask him whatever's on your mind. For somebody who spends a quarter of his day playing Hearthstone, he's quite interesting and a really nice guy.

- Alex Susskind, Will Rice '23

Nickolas Chen | PAA | McMurtry

If you are ever in the mood to get taro milk tea boba and all-you-can-eat sushi after spending three hours training for Brazilian jiu-jitsu and playing Falco in Smash, then Nick is your guy. Although Nick has a future career as an MMA fighter, he also has a side job lined up as a chemical engineer and plans to get his MBA in kicking butt. In his free time, Nick loves making music, DJing, and his playlists are absolute FIRE, so I will shamelessly plug his Spotify (@critanaro). President of SASE, co-founder of an engineering start-up, pro LoL player, and certified anime stan... what can't he do?? Fr tho, Nick is one of the funniest, sweetest, and most caring people that I know, and he is going to be such an amazing O-Week PAA!

- Cassidy Kurita, McMurtry College '22

Aesop Rocky



MCMURTRY
COLLEGE



Melodi Doganay
Senior
Chemical and
Biomolecular
Engineering
West Islip, NY



James Ding
Sophomore
Electrical Engineering
Taipei, Taiwan



Sophie Marx
Senior
Cognitive Sciences,
VADA
Brooklyn, NY



Elizabeth Myers
Sophomore
Computational and
Applied Mathematics
Austin, TX

Melodi Doganay | Advisor | McMurtry

Four words: Melodi Doganay, Turkish delight. We can confidently say that this chemical and biomolecular engineering senior from Long Island, New York is always full of awkward, goofy energy and genuine affection—with her as an Advisor, there can never be a dull moment. She can dance, she can Matlab, she can give Cardi B a run for her money, and she can smell a Chaüs Nutty Bee from a mile away. When she's not busy showing off her many talents,

Melodi de-stresses by binging awful British match-making reality TV shows, watching anime (she actually has a Crunchyroll subscription), and learning K-Pop dances with her suitemates—and this hot girl summer, she says she's gonna get as jacked as Wonho from Monsta X, so watch out! But most importantly, Mel is probably the kindest and sweetest friend you can make at McMurtry, and she is always there if you need someone to vent to or a shoulder to cry on—or if you just want some basic human interaction after over a year of social distancing. And if you ever want

to talk over some Thai food or boba, Melodi will always be down!

-Catherine Hettler, Claire Wang, McMurtry '22

James Ding | Advisor | McMurtry

Imagine yourself at an airport waiting to board and through the windows of the boarding room is an immaculate, blinding hunk of metal that is the plane you will soon fly. Dumbfounded, you really, really want to know everything about this aerodynamic beauty: its model, engines, mileage, or perhaps even its parents (Do planes have mommies and daddies? James can probably answer this). James here will satiate all of your airplane curiosity. Not too interested in planes? (You're a liar if you say so...) There is nothing to worry about, for he can quench any of your other intellectual curiosities with passionate and honest conversations. Whether you are interested in learning about a different culture or the best ways to shiny hunt a Magikarp, you can be sure that bringing up any topics with James will yield meaningful and, most importantly, fun discussions. If you are feeling down, let it be James who will serenade with a violin cover of your favorite anime opening. Coming from Taiwan, his culinary taste and worldly knowledge is unmatched. James' stories from Taiwan have captivated a large audience throughout his first year, so make sure you do not leave O-Week without hearing at least one of these infamous tales; if given the chance, you must ask about Daniel. Although brutally honest at times, James is a great and earnest chad who cannot wait to be your new best buddy.

-Duy Ha, McMurtry '24

Sophie Marx | Advisor | McMurtry

Ladies and gentlemen... introducing the baddie from Brooklyn... SOPHIE MARX! She is a McMurtry senior studying cognitive sciences, visual and dramatic arts, AND business, so you know that this random but extremely relevant combination of skills and knowledge will allow her to sing you a song about industrial and organizational psychology. Oh yeah, Sophie is also extremely talented — she is in the Rice Philharmonics a cappella group, except she is way too humble to ever show off (goal for O-Week should be to have her sing you a song from her musical theater days in high school). On campus, you'll probably find her sitting at Brochstein eating a breakfast burrito in some

form of a black crop top, impeccably fitting jeans, platform Doc Martens, and wing eyeliner so sharp it will cut you. When she's not at school, she is probably hanging out at her apartment with Henry, her adorable cat. One of Sophie's strengths (or weaknesses, depending on the situation!) is that she will never say no to trying something new, whether it be going to a new restaurant, trying an absurdly expensive workout class, or hopping on a plane to Mexico for an impromptu birthday trip. You will be so lucky to have Sophie as your Advisor — she is one of the most reliable, considerate, and caring people I have ever met, and she always smells fantastic (thank you Brazilian bum bum cream). O-Week will be SO fun with Sophe Marx!

- Jacki Hatch, McMurtry '23

Elizabeth Myers | Co-Advisor | Jones

Throw on a swimsuit and dive right into O-Week with Elizabeth Myers as your Co-Advisor from Jones!! If you can't swim, don't worry -- Rice Swimming's Little Miss Sunshine won't let you drown. You might see double when this fake Texan's family comes to town -- yessiree she is an identical twin. She is to Murt as her twin is to Duncan..haha, Duncan is the lesser twin oop. Elizabeth is a sophomore who embarked on the disgusting task of being a CAAM major AND student-athlete WHILE ALSO dabbling in Spanish and Italian classes (cause she's not busy enough clearly). Yup, that's right, she's smart, athletic, AND knows enough romance languages to help you seduce any new crushes. Over at Jones, Elizabeth is head of the Social's Committee AND everyone's favorite 4N resident (that's right she lives on the party floor #partyrocker). Elizabeth is organized, resilient, sweet, and, of course, kind. She also loves spending time outdoors and has made it a goal to travel to all of the US National Parks in her lifetime. Maybe someday she can take you all on an outdoors adventure.. but for now, she's excited to help you embark on your adventure at Rice. Congrats on getting the best mom ever -- GET PUMPED.

-Lauren Brantley, Duncan '24, Sarah Sowell, Jones '24

Alice in Yurtland: Through the Looking Gong



Rachel Lee
Sophomore
Bioengineering
Chicago, IL



Manshi Patel
Junior
Biochemistry,
English
Oak Ridge, TN



Caleb Robinson
Senior
Physics
Hattiesburg, MS



Nicole Lhuillier
Junior
History
Manila, Philippines



Ashley Zhou
Senior
Kinesiology,
Sports Medicine,
Chemistry
Fort Collins, CO

Rachel Lee | Advisor | McMurtry

Rachel may be small (5'1" to be exact), but don't let that fool you this crazy girl from the suburbs of Chicago is fearless. Speaking of fearless, have you heard of Taylor Swift's most recent album "Fearless (Taylor's Version)"? If you didn't know, you will after meeting Rachel. She is a crazy Taylor Swift fan, but that's not all folks! Rachel is more than just a Swiftie, she's also a complete book NERD. She has read the Percy Jackson and Ranger's Apprentice series over 20 times, and I'm not exaggerating. She can straight up quote pages from the book. And I know what you may be thinking: "wow, I got a nerd for an advisor." And yes, Rachel is a nerd. More than that though, she's crazy, adventurous, and funny. She's a die-hard Patriots fan (RIP Julian Edelman) and a novice skater girl. Rachel will drink a full 16oz Monster Energy just for the heck of it and then proceed to take a late-night trip to McDonald's for some nuggies and then come back to campus to dance to "We Are Young" (and she's got some groovy dance moves). Seriously though, Rachel is super chill and fun, and you can talk to her about literally anything because this girl is -educated-.

-Jacob Wong, McMurtry '24

Manshi Patel | Advisor | Diversity Facilitator | McMurtry

What she lacks in height, Manshi makes up for in personality – this 5 foot, ½ inch Oak Ridge, Tennessee native adds a LOT to every friend group (btw it's pronounced mon-see not mon-SHI). Everyone's favorite Biosciences & English double major loves to spend her free time bullet journaling, playing wizard 101, and inspecting her lab's fruit flies, even at 2 am. Though she was born in Canada and grew up in Tennessee, Manshi's family lives in Houston now; don't be surprised if you see her going back to her family-owned hotel to pick up some home-cooked vegetarian Indian food to get her through the week. When she is back at Rice, don't be afraid to ask her about anything happening on campus—as an academic Advisor, a student body leader, a volunteer, and a member of many other clubs and committees, Manshi will navigate you through your freshman year (even though she still gets lost on campus sometimes). You could not be in better hands!

-Justin Guilak, Catherine Chen, Brandon Zimmer, and Richard Lin, McMurtry '23

Caleb Robinson | Advisor | McMurtry

Caleb Robinson, your new favorite physics major from Hattiesburg, Mississippi. He loves the beauty of physics and math, and is basically always doing problem sets, but he also loves history and writing plays and movie scripts. He knows a ton about the Civil War and the World Wars, along with Roman history, and may or may not be in love with William Tecumseh Sherman (check his phone background). His "beard of knowledge" is responsible for the vast amount of information contained within his very wrinkly brain. Caleb is a great friend, and always there for a deep talk if you're feeling stressed, have a problem, or just want to talk about life. He's always up for some friendly sarcastic banter and will come back with some clever quips and jokes. You'll recognize Caleb from his iconic 60s/70s long hair (corresponding with his music taste) and his flat cap (that makes him look like he walked right out of an 1800s Irish fishing village) or Boston Red Sox cap. By the end of O-Week, you'll be saying his classic Caleb-isms as much as him — watch out for "rippy dippy," "you right, you right," and "that ain't it, chief." But don't worry, Caleb, armed with his strong dad energy, will make sure that you're prepared for

your first semester at Rice!

-Annelise Goldman, McMurtry '22

Nicole Lhuillier | Advisor | McMurtry

NICOLE LWEEL-YAY can be found anywhere her ambitions take her—from the office of her hometown's youth magazine to the halls of the "warm and beautiful" humanities building at Rice. You may be surprised to learn that she can go hard at Fondy and at the karaoke machine (you'll have to convince her on the second one). Whether she's enjoying a good book and a watermelon shake on a tropical Philippine beach or spontaneously dragging her friends to an escape room, Nicole knows how to have a good time. Ever feel like dropping everything to discover hidden-gem food spots in the area? Wanna sing along to classic Disney films at 2 AM or go on an ice cream run post-exam? If so, you've basically won the lottery getting Nicole as an advisor. But if you just want to talk, that's cool too, because she is a great listener and quite possibly the nicest human to exist. Whenever you see her around, she'll give you a wave and a super sweet greeting. Nicole is everything you need in a friend—a workout buddy, study partner, personal cheerleader, shoulder to lean on, and confidante. There's no doubt that this ballerina-turned-student-journalist is as reliable, witty, and loyal as they come

-Betty Nakpil, Columbia University '23 and Christa Westheimer, McMurtry '23

Ashley Zhou | Co-Advisor | Lovett

Meet Ashley, a native Coloradoan shipped all the way to humid Houston just for you! This junior from Lovett is basically a golden retriever that goes crazy for outdoor adventures whether that be hiking, swimming, paddle boarding, or snowboarding. Although she is constantly sleep-deprived, she will lovingly bombard you with funny memes whenever you need that dose of happiness. Ashley also regularly requires high-quality boba (and any other food or drink), so whenever you want to explore Houston, she'll definitely venture out with you! You will most likely find her on Fondy 6th (sad pre-med noises) or lurking around the Sammy's. This 5'4", shy extrovert is super excited to meet all of y'all and can't wait to be

part of your journey here at Rice!

-Alex Ho, Wiess '22, Jiwon Park, Sid Richardson '22

Childish Bambino



Vibha Sastri
Senior
Neuroscience,
Religion
North Potomac, MD



Brandon Chen
Sophomore
Cognitive Sciences,
Medical Humanities,
Biochemistry
& Cell Biology Minor
Arcadia, CA



Cortez Walters
Junior
History, Psychology,
Politics, Law, and
Social Thought Minor
Shreveport, LA



Annabelle Tzou
Junior
Civil Engineering
Saratoga, CA

Vibha Sastri | Advisor | McMurtry

A queen of an Advisor, Vibha Sastri, will be sure to bless your O-Weeks. With her 50 categorized Spotify playlists specific to artist, genre, and audience, you already know her organizational skills during O-Week will be unmatched. She'll tell you she's from D.C., but don't let her trick you, she's technically from Maryland. Chugging straight black coffee in the morning before class, this girl is hardcore. But don't fret, she's really just a softie at heart, and will politely ask you to kill a spider for her. You'll probably want to go to her for advice, especially during your first week. She's honest and is as authentic as you can get. As a senior neuroscience-religion double major and president of the Phils, there's nothing she can't do. You'll probably find her in fruit-themed clothing, basking outside in the sun. If not, she's most likely testing new recipes in her mini waffle iron or ranking the cafés in Houston. Vibha can effortlessly brighten up your day with her glowing presence. Don't be scared to really get to know her. She has such great insight on first year and just for life in general that you don't want to be missing out on—aside from the fact that her favorite movie is the Emperor's New Groove,

which no one really understands.

- Hannah Boyd, McMurtry '22

Brandon Chen | Co-Advisor | Will Rice

Brandon Chen is a Will Rice sophomore majoring in Cognitive Sciences and on the pre-med track. From southern California, he enjoys hiking the trails around Los Angeles. As an expert photographer, graphic designer, and video editor, he has contributed many photos and videos to the Rice Thresher, the campus newspaper, as well as freelance work. Brandon also has a lovely singing voice; his Nocturnal a capella concerts are a must-see. His musical talents are further reinforced by his profound piano skills, which he generously teaches to others. He additionally practices martial arts and spends late nights studying, playing board games, and attempting to write songs in and around Will Rice Commons. He is boundlessly helpful and kind to everyone around him, and he is a fantastic person to talk to for any reason: his advice is personal, his attitude welcoming, and his responses genuine.

- George Lyu, Will Rice '24

Cortez Walters | Advisor | McMurtry

Whether you spot him on 5th floor (his natural habitat) or breaking ankles on the court, Cortez X Walters is a loud presence. The most competitive person I know, Cortez will not take defeat as an option, and if you do manage to win, he'll be asking to run it back before you can say "Good Game." Cortez is a die-hard Dallas Cowboys fan and worships the Boston Celtics, and I pray for your soul if you dare say anything positive about Lebron in his presence. A mix between athleticism and intelligence, this Murt Junior's sharp wit is the only thing fiercer than his competitive drive. Reminiscent of his personal hero, Malcom X, the Psych/History major is all too ready to pluck your argument apart little by little until you are left with nothing but resignation as you find yourself conceding to his point. This Shreveport, Louisiana native will give you encyclopedia levels of information on Cajun cuisine, just to tell you it's nothing like back home. All things aside, despite having an almost palpable intensity to him, Cortez is a great friend to see when you're down, or in dire need of advice. He will always tell you things straight up and can be depended on when you need him most.

- Joe Hernandez, McMurtry '23

Annabelle Tzou | Advisor | McMurtry

Coming in from the Bay Area, it is no surprise that Annabelle is from the sunshine state. With a laugh that can light up any room, you will no doubt have an unforgettable time with her as your Advisor. She's the most reliable person you'll ever meet; she's got your back no matter the time of day, whether you're in need of an early morning workout sesh or a partner-in-crime to go on a late-night adventure with. She's there. And don't even get me started about her whole aesthetic. Clean, fresh, sophisticated... *chef's kiss*. Just look at her VSCO feed and you'll get it. Every fit she pulls up in is a masterpiece, you're guaranteed to have your jaw drop. She's also a junior majoring in Civil engineering so you know she knows how to "build" a solid relationship with you;) When she isn't out saving the day, you can catch her securing her (grocery) bag at Trader Joe's, rearranging her room in the most extra manner, or watching an ancient c-drama under her blanket till the sun rises. Although she loves her hot chips stale, no interaction with her will be stale, and that's a guarantee. Also, have I mentioned that she's absolutely ripped? You're gonna be in the presence of an absolute fitness guru, so you know she's ready to lift you up metaphorically and literally. You couldn't ask for a better Advisor than Annabelle. She is so excited to meet you and welcome you to your new home at McMurtry. MFYF!

- Mimi Chang, McMurtry '23

DaBaby and DaBeast



Max Cunningham
Junior
Statistics,
Sport Management
Bedminster, NJ



Fadil Eledath
Junior
Electrical
and Computer
Engineering
Dubai, UAE



Vanessa Garlepp
Junior
Bioengineering,
Global Health
Technologies minor
Austin, TX



Kaitlyn Liu
Junior
Psychology,
Business minor
Frisco, TX

Max Cunningham | Advisor | McMurtry

Max Cunningham is like a perfectly cooked brownie — crusty on the outside, but soft and gooey on the inside. With his plastic gallon water jug ("The Jug") and slides, this Statistics/Sports Analytics double major and KTRU host may seem like a basic bro, but don't be fooled; mention any Quentin Tarantino movie or underground hip-hop artist and you'll get a glimpse of his true nerdy self. His pastimes include convincing people that humanity needs to 'Return to Monkey', driving around Houston in Kevin the Subaru to find the best food deals, and posting up in random places around Murt with a bowl of cereal (ask him about his favorites). DO NOT FRET if he calls you a dolt... it's a term of endearment to him, and it means that he probably cares about you. But really though, if you ever need Max, he'll be there for you (even if he acts grumpy about it), from airport rides to late-night conversations when you're -down bad-. If he's half as good an Advisor as he is a friend, you're in for a fantastic O-Week!

-Dante Garderet, Maria Hancu, McMurtry '24, Jazmine Castillo, McMurtry '23

Fadil Eledath | Advisor | McMurtry

Fadil? More like Fa-willcreateanythingyouaskhimto. This junior is McMurtry's most notorious DIY dad, who once pranked his freshman year roommate by putting a custom, life-size cardboard cutout of Michael B. Jordan in front of his bed in the middle of the night. He's also an environmentally conscious king, working on a startup that's developing robots to make recycling more convenient. Standing at 5'6", this ELEC major is sure to spark your excitement for Rice by showing you around the OEDK, referencing all the highest-quality memes out there, and just being an all-around good dude

-Aman Shanbhag, Charan Santhirasegaran, Eliot Solomon, McMurtry '23

Vanessa Garlepp | Advisor | McMurtry

IF THIS FINE GORL IS YOUR ADVISOR THEN YOU ARE IN FOR A ROLLEROASTER SEMESTER OF SUPPORT, LOVE, DEVOTION, AND MUCH FUNNN TIMES. VANESSA GARLEPP!!! IS A LEAN MEAN BIOE MACHINE! SLEEP?? MEANINGLESS!! FIND HER SUPPORTING HER FRIENDS ON NIGHT WALKS, STUDYING AT THE BRC AT 4 AM, SELLING CUSTOM-MADE SNEAKERS AND JEANS, AND WATCHING TOM AND JERRY TO AVOID HER WORK! WITH A CUP OF MATCHA IN HER HAND, THIS GORL WILL BE AT THE REC GRINDING OUT THOSE WEIGHTS EVERY MORNING. SHE IS A HEALTH QUEEN BUT NOT AFRAID TO MONCH ON CHEDDAR WHALES AT ANY TIME (BUT NOT SUGAR... FRUCTOSE-FREE LIFE !!!. ENJOY MEETING THIS ABSOLUTE UNIT AT MCM!)

-Annika Nambiar, McMurtry '23, Sophia Zhou, Hanszen '23

Kaitlyn Liu | Co-Advisor | Wiess

CONGRATS!! If you got Kaitlyn (aka mochi) as an Advisor you are set. Originally from the Dirty D (but actually Frisco), this amazing girl will make it her mission to be your new best friend. She will not only constantly hype you up with her smooth puns (please just laugh at them, it makes them more bearable) but she will be the most caring and loving Advisor. As a literal embodiment of sunshine, Kaitlyn will not fail to laugh every five minutes, making you think you're the funniest person in the world. But don't let that fool you— when it comes to playing tennis or League, she will DESTROY you (and then cook you a hearty, healthy meal after because she is ALSO a beast in the kitchen and loves to cook for people). If you don't find her grinding Japanese homework or working on Rice Consulting projects in the multicultural center, she will probably be in the Wiess commons greeting everyone she sees with an enthusiastic smile. And don't worry if you are too far from her— she will not be afraid to yell hi to you across the quad until you hear her. If this didn't already convince you of her greatness, this girl will be the best listener there is and is amazing at giving advice or just a hug if that is what you need. Anyone can confide in her because she has a superpower of making people feel better (and she gives the BEST hugs. Seriously. I was anti-hug until Kaitlyn converted me— Alizay). Overall, you're in amazing hands with Kaitlyn as one of your advisors— an Advisor with the kindest heart and impeccable taste in boba and anime? What more could you ask for?

-Haj Naveed, Alizay Azeem, Wiess '23

Fulf Sendrella



Vidal Saenz
Sophomore
Bioengineering
McAllen, TX



Shreya Jain
Junior
Cognitive Sciences
Plano, TX



Kelly Huang
Junior
Computer Science,
Philosophy
Fairfax, VA



Aaron Vaughan
Senior
Psychology,
Sociology
Melissa, TX

Vidal Saenz | Advisor | McMurtry

This dude is the definition of heart over height. Vidal Saenz is majoring in Bioengineering, is from McAllen, Texas (puro 956 cuh, puro vato locos for life cuh), and is a hardcore gamer. Like I mean this man GAMEZ, with a Z. Never catch this man in a Pokémon battle because he will smack you with ABSOLUTELY ZERO REGARD FOR HUMAN LIFE. Not only that, but this man knows how to flip the switch even better than Drake. With his Nintendo Switch always on deck, my guy is always strapped. He will always stand by you no matter what. Homie's sarcasm might seem as if he hates you with a passion, BUT IN REALITY, my guy loves you with a passion. Make sure that you do not get caught slipping next to this man because he will absolutely flame you...however, he will often get caught slipping so you will have multiple opportunities to flame him right back. Vidal Saenz, while might seem like an ordinary jokester on the outside, he is full of heart and will make sure that you will find your way not only through McMurtry, NOT ONLY THROUGH RICE, BUT THROUGH ALL OF HOUSTON. Always handy with the good food spot, whether you want Halal, Italian, American, Mexican, LITERALLY ANY FOOD. If you don't think you are looking drippy enough, my guy will come through for you with a quick drip check to see if you are really looking fresh ORRRR if you are looking like a spoiled banana. It do be like that sometimes. With my guy here as your Advisor, you best believe HOWDY HOWDY it is gonna get rowdy.

-Damian Gonzalez, McMurtry '24

Shreya Jain | Advisor | McMurtry

If you're reading this, then congrats, you lucky duck—that means the lovely Shreya Jain is your O-Week mom!! Anytime you're feeling sad or stressed, Shreya will drop everything to comfort you or even tuck you in bed. She will always give you a confidence boost when you need it and can even teach you all the chemistry concepts you need (ask any McM sophomore—she is an absolute Gen Chem TA queen!!). On an average day, you can find her working through a problem set outside of Brochstein; on an average night, you can find her grinding in Duncan Hall, Fondy, or Martel commons. Ask her for stories about unfortunate typos, the 3O study room, emoji keyboard shortcuts, and especially the haunted printer in Duncan Hall *spooky*. BUT she's NOT all work. She can predict the weather, help you when your Insta gets hacked, build a table, and is an avid ice skater. We all want to be ShRRRRReya aka ESTRELLA. Long story short, as you'll quickly discover, Shreya is the most kind hearted, hilarious, supportive, hardworking, and prospie-looking friend. Don't worry—you're in very good hands

-Vanessa Garlepp, Josselyn Munoz, McMurtry '23

Kelly Huang | Co-Advisor | Lovett

Ever wanted to meet an influencer? Well, you're in luck; look no further than the coolest Advisor--Kelly Huang!

This junior Lovetteer Computer Science major hailing from West Virginia is perpetually sponsored by some shady, slightly suspicious company. Whether it's a (pyramid scheme?) electrolyte company or a Walmart version of Facebook, your connection to fame is right around the corner. Although your first impression of her will be a loud (LOUD) VSCO girl, Kelly is the most relatable introvert of your dreams. She's always down to chill—ask her to take you to the rec for a yoga session, watch the Great British Bake Off, yell at you to recycle, or sell you the Discover Student I T Credit Card... Kelly is funny, thoughtful, and one of the most lovable people you will ever meet. She will always be there for you and talk about anything while somehow managing to make you laugh and cry at the same time. Get ready to have the best first year with the best Advisor Rice has to offer :-)

-Rachel Wang, Lovett '23

Aaron Vaughan | Advisor | McMurtry

So imagine you're walking around campus, which you will be soon. And whoa—who's that? None other than EREN JAEGER. Jk, it's someone even better. It's AARON VAUGHAN, an absolute cinnamon roll. And I'm not just saying that because every Wednesday you can expect to find him devouring one. He is seriously the kindest, most sweet-hearted person. If you're in his O-Week group, consider yourself very lucky, as you are the envy of all of McMurtry. He was an O-Week Coordinator last year, so he has - experience -. Basically you're set for life once you get to know Aaron.

When he's not your sociology fellow or writing papers, you can find him helping out in Jackie's office during the day, or going to the Hoot basically every single night for Banh mi and spring rolls. He may also be in his room playing piano—but on silent mode—because he's respectful like that. What talent and dedication *cue applause*. He may also be FaceTiming his cat — who knows what happens in that room.

-Katherine Wu (and the 3C Suite 2020-2022), McMurtry '22 & '23

Grimm's Folklore



George Hung
Junior
Sports Medicine,
Linguistics,
Biochemistry
River Edge, NJ



Kate Mischlich
Sophomore
Bioengineering
Houston, TX



Sam Lowe
Junior
Neuroscience
Southlake, TX



Ryan Lipscomb
Junior
Architecture
Pittsburg, PA

George Hung | Advisor | McMurtry

Get ready to meet Bergen County, New Jersey's finest, George Hung! Dedication is the name of his game—this pre-med has interest in sports medicine, linguistics, and biochemistry (someone help him pick his major already...) and is super involved on campus, from saving lives as an REMS InCharge to New Life Fellowship to Rice Taiwanese Association to Global Medical Missions Alliance to Associate Justice at Murt... you get the gist.

If he's not grinding for whatever exam he has next, you can find him watching/playing soccer, finding a new board game to beat everyone in, or stretching the limits of his stomach at AYCE sushi. But don't be intimidated by this busy bee— George is one of the most down-to-earth people you will meet with an incredibly caring and reliable personality. He is always ready to make time for you, whether it's to have dumb debates about One Direction vs Big Time Rush or just to have deep talks about life. George is always looking out for his friends; you can rant to him about anything and he will have sound advice for you. He is so ready to support you through all the stresses and excitements of your first year!

-Steven Feng, McMurtry '22, Jessica Suh, Hanszen '24

Kate Mischlich | Advisor | McMurtry

When Kathryn Mischlich was ten years old she suffered from severe insomnia and all her fingernails fell off. Every interaction you will have with Kate will make you say, "Oh, somehow that kinda makes sense." But this is not a bad thing: Kate is the best person to ever grace the campus of Rice University. As a Houston native, Kate knows the ins and outs of this town. She is a Bioengineering major (and kicks butt at it!) but still has plenty of time to throw down on the weekend. Kate is a compassionate, caring person (she literally spends her summers devoted to children with chronic illnesses) and you are blessed to have her as an O-Week mom. If you need someone to help you through chemistry—she's your woman; if you need sound advice—she's got you; a water polo buddy—no one better; someone to run and steal rocks from the Duncan quad—Kate is weirdly into that. The only thing Kate cannot do is a get through finals week without getting a concussion. Get ready for a sick O-Week that will leave you in awe of the incredible Kate Mischlich!

-Bela Nelson, McMurtry '24

Sam Lowe | Co-Advisor | Jones

You lucky New Students have THE Sam Lowe, native Texan and rising Junior from Jones College, as your Advisor! Sam is a dedicated pre-med and neuroscience major + also earning a Certificate in Civic Leadership (summary: a science policy nerd). She does neuroscience research at McGovern Medical school (ask her about microbiomes) and will be a Jones academic fellow for Organic Chemistry (but she is always happy to help any of her McMurtry New Students with Orgo as well :)). But on top of all of that, Sam is the most supportive, adventurous, and overall incredible friend. Whether you're looking for someone to attend a baseball game or a Bachelor watch party with, Sam is pretty much down for anything! With her frequent 'Derry Girls' quotes, John Mulaney references, and biochemistry memes, Sam will always manage to make you smile. Sam is also quite the gourmet chef! She loves to cook her signature dish: blackened salmon! No matter the time of day, Sam will always be down for a coffee run to Chaüs (Seriously. Anytime is a good time for coffee). During her free time, you'll likely find Sam with a hammock, throwing a football/frisbee, listening to 80s music, or enjoying a home-made charcuterie board. Get ready to have the inspiring, funny, and lovable Sam Lowe as your Advisor and friend!

-Sophie Reilly, Shannon Campbell, Jones '23

Ryan Lipscomb | Advisor | McMurtry

Ever wanted to meet someone kind, creative, and fun, or at least someone who will help you with a smile? Well, come this August and meet the one and only Ryan Lipscomb! A rising junior from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania majoring in Architecture, Ryan is built and steeled for anything! Ryan is a member of Rice Nocturnal, a student a cappella group. He is also nocturnal, so don't be afraid to reach out to him if you're in a pickle but think nobody's awake. Chances are, Ryan still is. A true ace of the arts, Ryan is also an incredible artist (both traditional and digital!) and has a killer sense of fashion. When you shop with Ryan, you know he'll find a perfect fit or two. With Ryan as your Advisor, rest easy in knowing that he'll always have your back and lend an ear. He welcomes you with open arms and a fridge full of Pepsi!

-Ashley Duong, Brown '23

Han Solo and Gretef



Yang Ding
Senior
Kinesiology: Sports
Medicine
Houston, TX



Andrea Gomez
Senior
Architecture
Santiago, Chile



Hadley Medlock
Sophomore
English,
Environmental Studies
Dyer, AR



Isabel Tu
Sophomore
Computer Science
Plano, TX

Yang Ding | Co-Advisor | Jones

Get ready for the hypest Co-Advisor from Jones College (jiba babyyy), rising senior Yang Ding. This pre-med majoring in kinesiology is often seen at the basketball courts or spending time at the rec, and if you're looking for a workout buddy, he's the guy for you. You may have seen his name on YouTube when researching Rice, but don't be intimidated. He may initially come off as a gym bro, but once you get to know him you see that he is the most genuine and caring person you'll meet, and you are so lucky to have him supporting you during your time at Rice. Yang will do whatever he can to take care of you, from cooking you one of his amazing dishes (you need to make him make you one of his pasta dishes for sure) to going on late-night food runs when you're procrastinating on your homework. He's the best person to go to for advice on anything, from help with your classes, to how to propagate succulents, to the best boba places in Houston (as a self-proclaimed boba connoisseur!!). Originally from Houston, he knows all the best places to go in the city, and you also need to make sure that he shows you his cute puppy Olie, the cutest lil doggo (a mini Aussie) on Rice campus. With Yang as your Co-Advisor, I can assure you that you will have a fantastic first semester at Rice.

-Allison Johnson, Jones '23

Andrea Gomez | Advisor | McMurtry

Get ready for the ball of energy that is Andrea Gomez! She's an archi from both Chile and Peru, and looks exactly the same now as she did when she was 12... or maybe even when she was 3? Ask for photographic evidence. She's super competitive and loves to play board games where you can yell and argue, along with Club Basketball and McMurtry Powderpuff. Andrea is always playing music, anything from the 80s to early 2000s to 2020s. Basically anything jammable. She's great to trade song requests with, but don't ask her to sing along because you'll be scarred forever. Give her a chance to show off her ukulele skills, and you'll learn the words to "Riptide", "American Pie", and "Don't Stop Believing" by heart... apparently they're all the same chords? Lól (Andrea Gomez, 2021). Andrea is also an absolutely amazing artist — during quarantine, she got bored and painted a gorgeous mural on her bedroom wall! She watches a ton of TV... Basically, she has watched more TV, and movies, than you, guaranteed. Andrea really values her friends' happiness, and will always listen to an emotional rant or help you feel better if you have a problem. You're super lucky to have her as your O-Week mom — she'll make everything fun!

-Annelise Goldman, McMurtry '22

Hadley Medlock | Advisor | McMurtry

Have you thought about purchasing a lottery ticket lately? Because if you're lucky enough to have Hadley as your Advisor, you're what we call "one of the universe's favorites." Originally from the bustlin' town of Dyer, Arkansas, Hadley is currently a sophomore from McMurtry studying English. When you're not catching her jamming out to Taylor Swift as she writes the next great piece of literary theory, you can find her whipping up a mean latte behind bar at Rice Coffeehouse or wrecking shop in a game of ultimate with Torque. A connoisseur of Disney Channel Original Movies (somebody PLEASE watch Lemonade Mouth with her), fashionable footwear (peep the Crocs and Filas), and the English language (you will be called "girly pop," regardless of your gender), Hadley's one of the raddest gals on campus—not to mention being one of the kindest souls you'll ever meet. So, as you start your life at Rice, know that you'll be in good hands with the one, the only Hadley Medlock by your side.

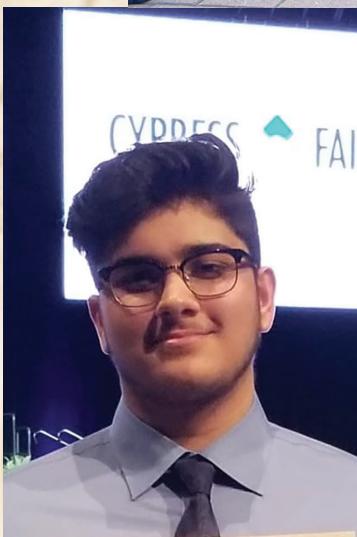
-Emily Sample, Wiess '22

Isabel Tu | Advisor | McMurtry

Oh, you got Isabel Tu as your Advisor? Well... YOU'RE IN LUCK! This sophomore hailing from Plano, TX, is NOT your average computer science major! In fact, as someone who plays the harp, enjoys learning about art history, and listens to classical music, I'm convinced she's from the past. Now, what exactly does Isabel do around campus? She's actually super active as a member of RPC and was a co-coordinator of this past year's Beer Bike (you might have even seen her in the 2021 Beer Bike video)! She's also just as involved with the community here at Murt serving as our very own traditions and -culinary- committee head. As you can imagine, she LOVES food in general and if you ask her for a restaurant recommendation, she would be more than thrilled to whip out her insane list of 100 of the best Houston restaurants (I'm not kidding, try asking her yourself). When she's not managing all of these tasks, you can find her working on a COMP assignment (or procrastinating on it with TikTok videos), napping on her roommate's rug at 4 PM, or hanging out with some friends (: Speaking of which, she's a super friendly, caring, and considerate person (unless you threaten to steal her stuffed animals) who enjoys helping others out! Like I said, you truly lucked out, and I know she can't wait to be your O-Week advisor!!

-Richard Chan, McMurtry '24

I Came in Like a Shrekking Ball



Anas Yousaf
Sophomore
Mechanical
Engineering
Houston, TX



Annika Nambiar
Junior
Biochemistry and
Cell Biology
San Francisco, CA



Renzo Espinoza
Sophomore
Computer Science
Fort Lauderdale, FL



Sarah Salvatore
Junior
Civil and Environmen-
tal Engineering
Shreveport, LA

Anas Yousaf | Advisor | McMurtry

This dude is the definition of heart over height. Anas Yousaf is majoring in Mechanical Engineering, is from Houston, Texas, and is a hardcore gamer. Like I mean this man GAMEZ, with a Z. Never catch this man in a Pokémon battle because he will smack you with ABSOLUTELY ZERO REGARD FOR HUMAN LIFE. Not only that, but this man knows how to flip the switch even better than Drake. With his Nintendo Switch always on deck, my guy is always strapped. He will always stand by you no matter what. Homie's sarcasm might seem as if he hates you with a passion, BUT IN REALITY, my guy loves you with a passion. Make sure that you do not get caught slipping next to this man because he will absolutely flame you...however, he will often get caught slipping so you will have multiple opportunities to flame him right back. Anas Yousaf, while might seem like an ordinary jokester on the outside, he is full of heart and will make sure that you will find your way not only through McMurtry, NOT ONLY THROUGH RICE, BUT THROUGH ALL OF HOUSTON. He knows these streets, and the streets know him if you know what I mean. Always handy with the good food spot, whether you want Halal, Italian, American, Mexican, LITERALLY ANY FOOD. If you don't think you are looking drippy enough, my guy will come through for you with a quick drip check to see if you are really looking fresh ORRRR if you are looking like a spoiled banana. It do be like that sometimes. With my guy here as your Advisor, you best believe HOWDY HOWDY it is gonna get rowdy.

-Damian Gonzalez, McMurtry '24

Annika Nambiar | Advisor | McMurtry

Annika will take your breath away, but DON'T WORRY, she's got a tank of oxygen (and Pikachu bandaids for good measure) ready in her Rice EMS golf cart! An aspiring pre-med hailing from San Francisco, her major may be Bio-sciences and her minor Medical Humanities, but her life's passion is food— whether it be the fresh blueberries at Seibel Servery or a new fried chicken spot in Houston, long distances or late hours won't stop her quest for a good bite. On the volleyball court, she brutally smashes her spikes and serves with no regard for human life, but off the court, she'll listen and help you out with any philosophical questions you may have with life (or maybe just your schedule or something). Trust me, you're in good hands as her O-Week children; she's an AWESOME plant mom with a wicked green thumb (don't ask about Minty though!). Annika is an amazing, supportive friend who you can count on for lots of laughs and many memorable late nights, so GET READY to have your SOCKS KNOCKED OFF by the best Advisor on this side of the Buffalo Bayou!

-Catherine Chen, Richard Lin, Brandon Zimmer and Justin Guilak, McMurtry '23

Renzo Espinoza | Co-Advisor | Wiess

Let me introduce you to my favorite person at Rice, the one and only Renzo Espinoza. This iconic sophomore Wiessman has plenty to offer. Coming from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Renzo brings a ..unique..and fun perspective to any crowd. You can catch Renzo at any time blasting music or incessantly watching TikToks. Seriously, he is a TikTok fiend, knows the dances, drama, and everything. Renzo is honestly such a down-to-earth, genuine person that is easy to talk to and get along with. His kindness and companionship are exemplified in so many ways, from going out of his way to bring you food, driving all over the Houston area for anything anyone needs, or maybe giving his friends a nickname (or two). Renzo's energy and vibe are vibrant and infectious, and anytime with him is one to remember. Not only is this man sociable and fun, as a computer science major, business minor, you know he also has an intellectual side about him. Whatever Renzo puts his mind to, it will come to fruition. You could not have lucked out with a more amazing Co-Advisor!

-Addison Saley, Wiess '24

Sarah Salvatore| Advisor | McMurtry

Congrats on getting Sarah as an O-Week Advisor! While Sarah might seem normal enough, and even somewhat reserved when you first meet her, don't be fooled; there's plenty of weird things to discover throughout O-Week and beyond. This "not like the other girls" girl from Louisiana (Shreveport, not New Orleans) is not afraid to show off her personality once she gets comfortable with you. As an environmental engineer, she'll be more than happy to tell you all about wind energy or compost all of your food scraps for you. As a friend, she's the perfect person to find the most creative ways to procrastinate with. Whether you want to take a deep dive into Flo Rida's lyrical masterpiece "Whistle", or spend an entire afternoon creating an elaborate, historically accurate biography for a dear friend who never existed, Sarah is an excellent partner in crime. She is very mature, perceptive, and compassionate, and is an amazing resource for emotional support and life advice through pretty much anything. At the same time, if you just want to turn your brain off, eat apple slices and peanut butter, and watch cartoons, there's no one better to do it with. That versatility makes Sarah a great friend, and will no doubt make her a wonderful O-Week mom as well.

-Josh Miller, McMurtry '23

Jack and the Banana Stalk



Soo Oh
Junior
Biochemistry and Cell
Biology
The Woodlands, TX



**Karen Martinez
Perez**
Sophomore
Linguistics,
Cognitive Sciences
Plantersville, TX



April Chung
Sophomore
Business
Frisco, TX



Hayden Mast
Senior
Mathematical
Economic Analysis,
Managerial Studies
Austin, TX

Soo Oh | Co-Advisor | Sid Richardson

Sooperman? Soopreme? Tiramisoo? Soo Oh is all of the above. Resembling a tall and lanky banana tree, this native Houstonian and Sidizen Co-Advisor is more than excited to join the McMurtry family this year! Though he introduces himself as the most average person around, he is anything but. As a pre-PA Biochemistry major and REMS member, you can count on Soo to come by and help you out in any time of distress. While he balances his academic strengths with his questionable athletic prowess (Sid Richardson bike team!), you will also often hear about Soo jamming to IU, fidgeting on his computer, or losing miserably in board games. Soo is the embodiment of sweet and salty, with just the right amount of sass. Soo's contagious laughter will brighten up any room he walks into, but he is also the best person for late-night chats *and* snacks (ask him to show off his impressive cooking skills!). As a fan of sushi and KBBQ, Soo is particularly skilled at consuming unhealthy amounts of salmon and pork cheeks and always willing to make friends over a meal together. Soo is 100% the most supportive Co-Advisor and friend you will have, and he is looking forward to welcoming you into the wonderful community of Rice!

-Jessica Suh, Hanszen '24

Karen Martinez Perez | Advisor | McMurtry

Karen Martinez Perez, a sophomore majoring in Linguistics and Cognitive Sciences, is also a polyglot who speaks better Chinese than a certain someone. She's a local Texan but is originally from Mexico and is an avid member of the Hispanic Association for Cultural Enrichment at Rice. As the first one in her family to go to college, she is the pride and joy of her many family members (including 20 dogs!). Her experience as a mental health advocate makes her the rock of her friend groups and a crucial part of our support system. Karen is also an RHA, PAA, and Peer Minister for the CSA's Women's Group but despite her many commitments, she always makes time for her friends and if you ever need someone to lean on, she will be there for you. Her sweet personality is mirrored by her love for cute things like plushies, floral print, strawberries, and Eevee the Pokémon. She's good at budgeting but will readily spend her money on her friends so expect some surprise gifts along the way. Like Cinderella's glass slipper, she will be the perfect fit as your O-Week mom.

-Mia Lin, Wiess '24, Anushka Agrawal, Hanszen '24

April Chung | Advisor | McMurtry

Born in Austin, Texas but raised in Frisco near Dallas, April Chung is someone you'll be glad to have met. A former violin performance major, she's now going to be a member of the first class of business major students at Rice University. Some things of note: she has a vertical of approximately 2 inches, she's watched FRIENDS over 20 times, and she's got an incredible sense of humor. You'll find yourself laughing with her constantly and she'll never fail to make you smile. But the funniest thing about April is her amazing dance moves. Just watch her tear up the dance floor with her signature arm circles (you'll understand when you see it). One of the things she loves the most is her dog, Cleo. However, I do question her loyalty to Cleo, because I've seen her cry after meeting a corgi on campus. And as much as she loves dogs, her one true love is Halal Guys. If you ever wanted to lure her somewhere, the promise of Halal Guys would be enough. She's a super talented, incredibly genuine, once-in-a-lifetime friend and she is going to be an amazing O-Week Advisor.

-Rachel Lee, McMurtry '24

Hayden Mast | Advisor | McMurtry

You got Hayden Mast as your Advisor? Good luck... Jk! You're in for a treat with this obnoxiously Texan McMurtry senior. Born and raised in the one and only Austin, Texas, Hayden's a diehard sports fan and loves his Longhorns, Cowboys, and Mavericks to death, and anyone can tell you that a Friday night watching sports at Pluckers Wing Bar is his version of a Hawaiian island. And if you've come to Rice hoping to be educated on delicious, indigenous, and incredibly hearty Tex-Mex food, Hayden can tell you the place to find it. As a Math Econ/Managerial Studies double major who's going into finance, Hayden's also got the academics part of college down too (even though he's always down to procrastinate all of his work). Nobody can question his dedication to O-Week and his college, as this proud Murt is pumped to be advising for a 3rd time this year. Hayden's a friend you can always rely on, and he will make your O-Week an experience to remember. Just don't tell him that Chuy's sucks.

-Will Lu, Kabir Sood, McMurtry '22

Peter Panic! at the Disco



An Luu
Senior
Sports Medicine
Houston, TX



Valencia Shuler
Senior
History,
Political Science
San Antonio, TX



Morgan Gage
Junior
English (Creative
Writing, literary
history), VADA
(Theatre)
Whitehouse, TX



Prerna Mohan
Sophomore
Chemistry, Classics
Summit, NJ

An Luu | Advisor | McMurtry

Whether its offering anyone and everyone a ride to the airport for a free meal, tracking sand into the suite from playing sand volleyball for 4+ hours, making spontaneous 1AM trips to YoYo's, or jamming out to the latest bops (Joji if he's sad), this Houston native and Sports Medicine major is the most gung-ho person you can find at Rice. You simply cannot contain An's passion or excitement for anything. He is the current President of the Vietnamese Student Association, your Men's IM Volleyball Captain, and a full-time food connoisseur. When he's not busy with all these amazing things, you can find him binging One Piece (he *will* try to convince you to watch all 1000 episodes), learning TikTok dances, or playing (& winning) poker. But most importantly, An is a great friend and will always lend you a shoulder to cry on. With him as your Advisor, you are sure to have the best O-Week experience you can get!

-Melodi Doganay, McMurtry '22

Valencia Shuler | Co-Advisor | Sid Richardson

Move chick, get out the way! Although Valencia looks and is intimidating, she is also one of the sweetest and most caring people you will ever meet. You'll find that her presence is always a gift, especially since her birthday is on Christmas day. This Senior History/Political Science major from Colorado Springs/San Antonio/Kansas City... radiates infectious confidence and will help you become the best version of yourself. Valencia is a connoisseur of reality television and can explain the competitive ingenuity on RuPaul's Drag Race, the cultural sophistication of Floribama Shore, and the electrifying romance of The Bachelor. Valencia's thoughtfulness, supportiveness, and reassuring nature also shine through in her role as an RHA at Sid Rich. In her free time, you can find her down to hoop or play a set of volleyball, supporting all kinds of Rice sports, and rooting for the Patriots on Sunday afternoons. If you need someone to tell it like it is and support you through your highest highs and lowest lows, you couldn't be blessed with a better Advisor and friend than Valencia.

-Luke Shealy, Daniel Sedano, Darren Zach, Sid Richardson '22

Morgan Gage | Advisor | McMurtry

You know when you're running through the sprinklers on a sunny day and then the sky opens up and it starts pouring, Notebook-lake-scene-style? That's what being friends with Morgan is like, except the water is love and affection. It may start as sprinkles but you'll be showered in care by the time Morgan is done with you. This Suburban Southern Belle hails from Whitehouse, TX which she insists isn't country but she still knows Carrie Underwood songs up the wazoo. Majoring in some combination of Visual and Dramatic Arts, Sexuality, Women, and Gender Studies, and English, Morgan is just as dedicated to long major names as she is to squeezing the most out of her academic experience. And she also puts the gage in engaged with her involvement with Rice Players, the Rice Thresher, and STRIVE. Morgan will always be out and about doing something to improve campus but will still make time to hug you and tell you how wonderful you are. Make sure to follow her on Spotify to discover everything from women singing about being sad (Taylor Swift, mxmtoon) to women singing about being sad (Beach Bunny, Girl in Red). No matter the music taste though, Morgan always sports the widest smile I've seen and is ready to dive headfirst into anything. Stick around with her and maybe one day she'll love you as much as she loves The Bell Jar.

-Jacob Tate, Sid Richardson '22

Prerna Mohan | Advisor | McMurtry

Do you love bright colors and early mornings, think that all bagels taste the same, root for the Texas Cowboys, and agree that Jersey is the worst state in the country? If you do, you'll hate Prerna! But don't panic! Even though your local #Jerseygirl owns a grayscale wardrobe, she still has a heart of gold. On a normal afternoon, you'll probably find Prerna on her way back from Chaüs in sweatpants, listening to J. Cole and reading some Greek Classics (shoutout Harvey). Although her nut allergy puts her relatively low in the food chain, her amazing mom advice, bear hugs, and text links of BuzzFeed quizzes will put her high up in your heart. But wait—there's more! Prernie has so much school spirit that she's not only a Rice Owl, but also a Night Owl! She WILL stand you up for breakfast at West, but she's always down for some black tea and vibes at 3am. Get ready for the most LIT O-Week, because with Prernie as your advisor, there's not a problem you can't fix (and if there is, she's got about 30 drugs' worth of medical supplies in her purse that will do the trick).

P.S. Don't ask her about jumping the hedges.

-Valentina Ortega, Ananya Lingineni, McMurtry '24

Rumpel-KILT-skin



Natasha Patnaik
Sophomore
Computational &
Applied Mathematics,
Math-Econ
McKinney, TX / Hyderabad, India

Gail Oudekerk
Sophomore
Statistics & Social
Policy Analysis
Conway, AK

Jacob Wong
Sophomore
Kinesiology
Austin, TX

Chatham Abate
Senior
Computer Science
Mountain Lakes, NJ

Virginia Baskin
Sophomore
Cognitive Science
Marble Falls, TX

Natasha Patnaik | Advisor | Diversity Facilitator| McMurtry

Natasha is one of the most caring and welcoming people I've met. I'd trust her with my life. I've already trusted her with my life. It was a very formative experience. And really? It's really real. Like really really real. Maybe the realest one can be with a person. She's not scared of looking stupid. Which really? is great. She's ready to learn and grow and turn right back around and help others learn and grow. It's a never-ending cycle, man. Peace bro. This CAAM and Math-Econ double major (class of 2024) hails from McKinney, TX and Hyderabad, India- and is the one really cut out for this job. She inspires me to be kinder to those around me and listen to opinions I might not at first agree with.

Under her wise guidance, you will see how awesomely she can communicate and discuss the needs and issues of the community at large. I've become her padawan, and with a couple of easy sessions, you can too. Is Natasha awesome? Yes. Undoubtedly. Does she inspire confidence? Also yes. Will she show up in your dreams to have wholesome conversations? Aha. Maybe. Will she burst through your wall like Kool-Aid Man and tell you about self-care?

But anyhow, I hope that, in the looming O-Week, you all realize what makes Natasha so special to me and to so many others as well.

-Hannah Hoskins, McMurtry '24

Gail Oudekerk | Advisor | McMurtry

GAIL IS THE BEST! I'm proud to call her a friend. She is truly one of the most wonderful people I have ever met. I could not ask for a better roommate or a better person in what has been a completely unconventional year. She can handle anything that comes her way, and can make absolutely anyone feel welcome in the most authentic way. Her huge heart and infectious smile are instant mood boosters. She puts her all into everything she does, and you can always count on her to make you smile or laugh. She is also incredibly witty, and as a result, makes great company.

Her passion for helping others is evident in her actions and her aura. Always ready to lend a helping hand, and a shoulder to lean on, she is truly one of the most selfless, compassionate people I have ever met. Y'all are honestly lucky to have her as an Advisor. She sounds too good to be true, right? That's because she is!

-Muna Ogbunamiri, McMurtry '24

Jacob Wong | Advisor | McMurtry

You may be wondering: who is Jacob Wong? Jacob is a Kinesiology sophomore from what he claims is the best city ever: Austin, Texas. His smile and welcoming nature will make you feel at home wherever you are. Beware, however, as Jacob is a competitive person and will aim to destroy you in ping pong, basketball, or literally any competition. Food is the one thing that Jacob may prioritize over his New Students. No matter how hard his day is, a good meal will elate him to the highest of euphorias. When not eating, Jacob loves to go on late-night drives, vlog for YouTube (@gonggigang), explore music, and attend every single office hour session. As an Advisor, Jacob will aid you with stellar academic advice (he's a Peer Academic Advisor), social networks, and smooth integration into Rice. You will soon find out that Jacob is a man of loyalty, honesty, and empathy. Most importantly, Jacob is down to do anything, and he is THE person to go to if you simply want a good time.

-James Hwang, McMurtry '24

Chatham Abate | Advisor | McMurtry

Chatham Abate is a tech wiz studying Computer Science, so you know he'll challenge you to a speed typing race (typeracer.com) the first day he meets you (he's now at the octopus level, nbd, nbd). Since he grew up in New Jersey, warm sports aren't his thing, but put him in snow and he'll ski circles around you. Chatham won't brag so I'll brag for him; he's an amazing musician, who can play piano, guitar, and can sing too! While his hobbies and academics are cool and all, Chatham's personality is the greatest. If you're ever feeling down, just join him for one of his daily walks through Hermann Park. You won't find a better walking partner or friend than him.

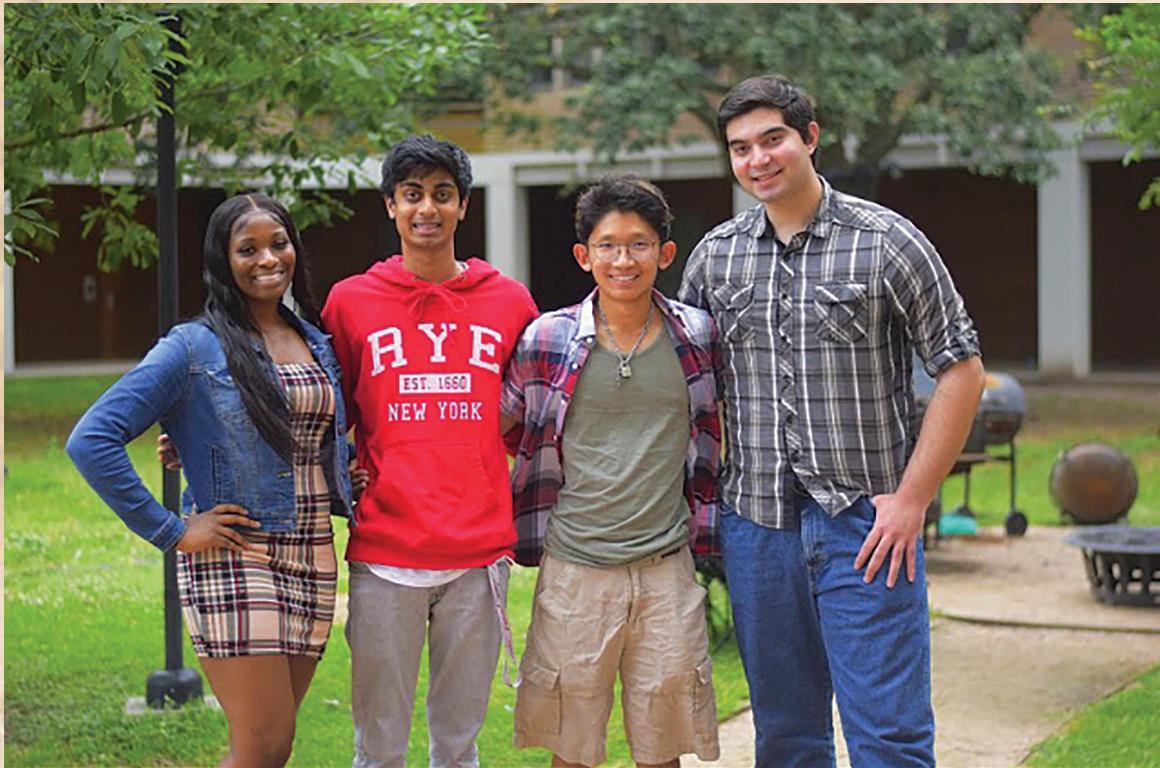
-Emily Echeverria, McMurtry '21

Virginia Baskin | Co-Advisor | Baker

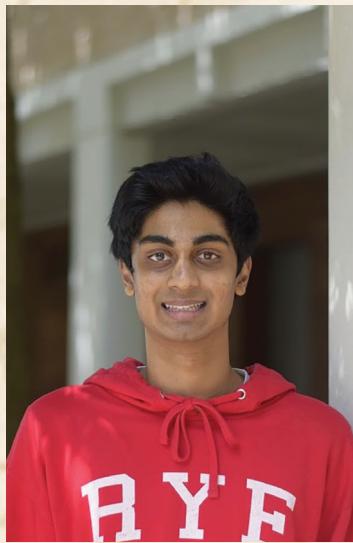
-Swoosh, swoosh, SWOOSH- Is it a bird? A plane? No. It's a social butterfly (and your O-Week Co-Advisor) Virginia Baskin! This legend hails from (outside of) Austin, but she's one of the most well-traveled people you will have the chance to meet. In fact, she's especially well-equipped to advise New Students because she recently spent a year in Spain as an Au Pair for two toddlers (this will be a breeze for her)—not to mention her extensive experience as a summer camp counselor! When she's not travelling the world or commanding hoards of 6-year-olds, you can often find Virginia whipping up culinary masterpieces or organizing Baker's best Spirit Fridays. Beneath her curly brown hair, Virginia also has an incredibly wrinkly brain (a true genius): You can tell Virginia is a cognitive science major purely by her enormous library of (unprompted) psychology facts. But seriously, this jet-setting, bubbly icon is one of the smartest and most genuine friends you'll ever have.

-Ben Meisburger, Imogen Meers, Jones '24

The Frog Prince of Bel-Air



Chanel Ericsson
Junior
Psychology and
Sports Medicine
Bristow, VA



Ajay Kumar
Junior
Biochemistry and
Cell Biology
San Diego, CA



Daniel Cho
Junior
Violin Performance
and Composition
Philadelphia, PA



Nick Gonzalez
Junior
Neuroscience,
Business
Katy, TX

Chanel Ericsson | Advisor | McMurtry

So, you want to know about Chanel Ericsson? I'd say you could go ask her yourself, but if you're not lucky enough to catch her in her room or on 5th between 10pm and 6am, you're probably better off just calling her (she always picks up!!). The rest of her day she spends doing quite literally everything you can imagine! If I had to choose one way to describe Chanel, it'd be .booked and busy...Chanel's been a trailblazer all her life, living all across the country in Texas, Indiana, New Jersey, Las Vegas, and Virginia! Once she finally settled on Rice's

campus, she still couldn't stop moving! This may be news to you since Chanel is involved in so many Murt activities, but she was originally a Lovetteer when she matriculated with the Class of 2023! Finally, she found her home at McMurtry, studying Psychology and Sports Medicine. Still, she exercises those busy legs by representing Rice as a cheerleader, and somehow attending nearly every on-campus event ever! Although Chanel is indeed .booked and busy..she's always willing to make time for her amazing O-Week kids (who she never stops talking about) and anyone else that needs her. We as a campus, a college, and a cohort are so much better off for having Chanel, the warm and ingenious force of nature, whipping through campus and our lives like a hurricane!

-Jared Butler, Lovett '23

Ajay Kumar | Co-Advisor | Will Rice

When you first meet Ajay (AJ) Kumar (Will Rice '23), don't be caught off guard. Ajay is a man of few words - so few, that there is a possibility that he may withhold personal information that is vital to fully understanding the true complexity of the man. Therefore, it is my self-prescribed responsibility to fill in these gaps and paint a picture of the real Ajay Kumar. First and foremost, Ajay's most defining characteristic: his skinniness. Sporting a BMI roughly equivalent to his mental age (15!), Ajay proudly dons a flannel/hoodie every day of the week, even during Houston's most intense 100+ degree summer days. Throw in his consistently mismatched socks on top of this, and the character of Ajay Kumar is beginning to take shape. In terms of his personality, Ajay is..eccentric. If you don't know where Ajay Kumar is, here are three possibilities: on his bed playing games on cartoon-network.com (he spends approximately .18-20 hours/day in bed), watching reruns of The Amazing World of Gumball ("greatest show of all time"- his words), or in his lab curing cancer. The least studious pre-med in the history of Rice (and maybe ever), Ajay is undoubtedly a legitimate genius capable of acing an intense course load (Organic Chemistry, Physics, etc.) while having hours to pour into his TikTok addiction. Overall, Ajay is an enigma: every time I think I have him figured out, he finds a new way to surprise me. In my opinion, this is what makes Ajay a top-tier person, and I truly expect him to put in the work to make your O-Week the best, most

unique week of your life.

-Jacob Kauffman, Will Rice '23

Daniel Cho | Advisor | McMurtry

Daniel Cho, a junior at Murt, is an aspiring film scorer and violinist from Philly who (desperately) wants to be best buds with Hans Zimmer. Daniel might look serious but he's secretly the CEO of dad jokes—and he adamantly believes boba is the best therapy for ANYTHING (he'll take you on a spontaneous boba trip after hours on the grind any day). No matter if you want to listen to a pro rendition of the Chaconne from Bach's Partita no.

2 or you suddenly crave a spontaneous late-night snack, Dan the Cho is the man on the go.

-Ingrid He, McMurtry '23

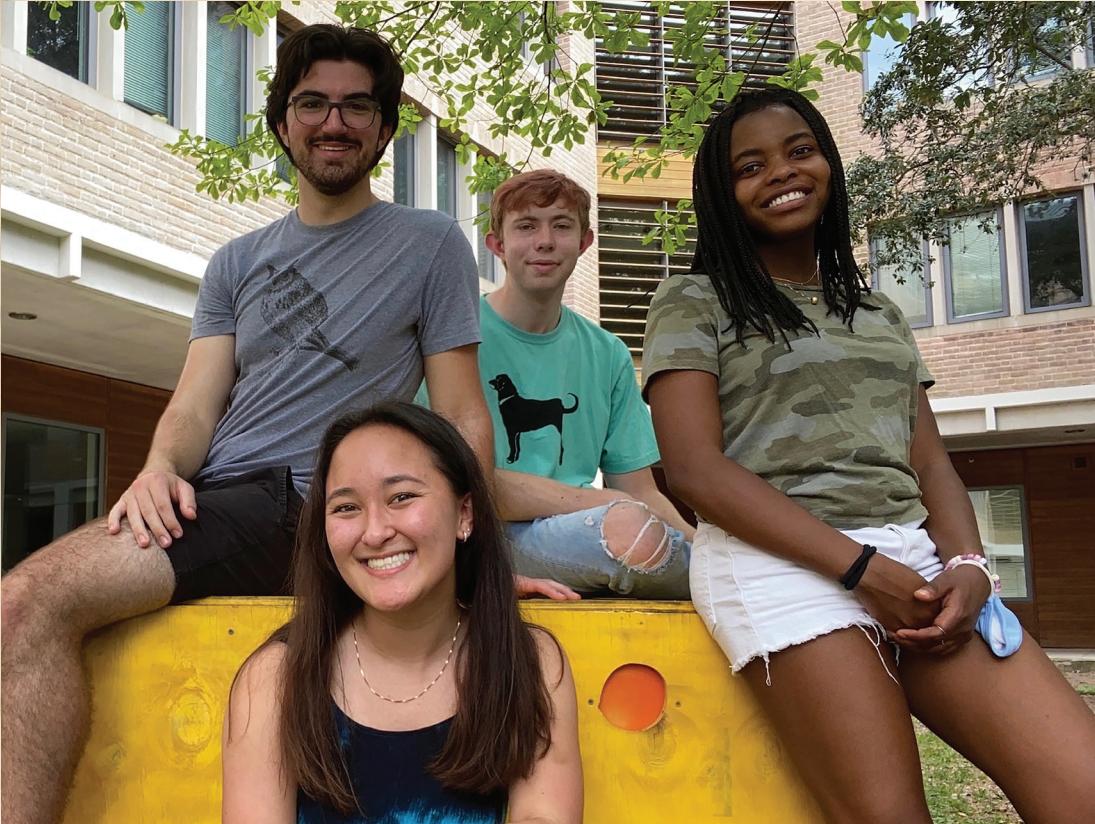
Nick Gonzalez | Advisor | McMurtry

The myth, the Murt, the legend: While Nick Gonzalez may have been on a leave of absence this past year, your O-Week group is being blessed with the return of the big friendly giant to Rice University. Don't worry, he hasn't been sitting idly throughout his gap year: He's been day trading, and now he's a pro when it comes to sToNKs. If you really wanna get him talking, ask him about DogeCoin and be prepared. When this Houstonian (except he's really from Katy) isn't grinding the books studying Neuroscience, you can probably find him at House of Pies (his love for it may or may not have even inspired a group chat titled "Nick's Intervention"). As your Advisor, he will surely recruit you to his House of Pies cul...*ahem*... appreciation club. And if you're ever in need of listening to some sweet classical bass playing, he'll sweep you off your feet with those amazing tunes. We want to warn you though, be prepared to see two versions of Nick. We mean this literally. When he shaves his face, he transforms into Baby-face Nick. Eater of pies, wearer of leather jackets, scholar of brains, and a certified tall boi..,Nick Gonzalez will be an awesome Advisor, just you wait and see. If you need a friend, he'll be there, no matter what hour of the day. He protecc, he attacc (his studies), he got ur bacc.

- Caleb Hesita, Jazmine Castillo, Jonathan De La Cruz, McMurtry '23

The Little Murtmaid:

Find your voice



Josh Miller
Junior
Physics
Cypress, TX



Isabel Sjodin
Senior
Chemical and
Biomolecular
Engineering
Sugar Land, TX



Jacob Kauffman
Junior
Economics,
Sport Management
League City, TX



Mrike Ayodeji
Sophomore
Cognitive Sciences
Yorktown, VA

Josh Miller | Advisor | McMurtry

When you first meet Josh Miller he will probably immediately roast you, but don't worry, that's just how he thinks people make friends. This rising junior is a physics (wait no maybe comp sci actually no sticking with physics for sure) major. He comes from cypress, texas, and will talk your ear off about subjects ranging from quantum mechanics to adventure time. He's truly a man of many talents, from Lego art to sting pong. And his hobbies include reading random Wikipedia pages, obsessing about the census, and existing in the void. He's currently recovering from a shoulder injury but hit him up in the fall for a great gym buddy. A few other things: don't ask him when he learned how to ride a bike! And never let him forget he is 5'11 (he's actually 6' but being called 5'11 makes him upset so...) Real talk, Josh is the best. He's incredibly fun and caring, and he's super excited to be an O-Week dad. I promise you'll love him!!!

-Sarah Salvatore, McMurtry '23

Isabel Sjodin | Advisor | McMurtry

Coming all the way from Sugar Land, Texas, this McMurtry senior Chemical Engineering major is sure to shower you with love, as long as she can escape the enormous pile of clothing she purchased this week. You're sure to see Isabel everywhere you go, whether it's when she's on her nighttime inner loop walk or at literally any club meeting on campus (she's in all of them). Every day is a new adventure with her, but also the same conversation about Y2K tickets two years ago. When she's not on the Powderpuff field, you can find her cartwheeling down the halls of McMurtry or getting her cardio in at the rec. She may show up late for your group photo (or basically any plans you'll ever make), but she's sure to give you her full attention, honest advice, and a safe shoulder to cry on. With Isabel as your Advisor, you know you have someone who will always have your back and will drop everything to be there for you. Get excited McMurtry, cause O-Week Isa-bout to be amazing with Isabel!

-Lila Frenkel, Claire Cho, Duncan '22

Jacob Kauffman | Co-Advisor | Will Rice

Zoo Wee Mama! That's what you'll be screaming when you meet your Co-Advisor Jacob Kauffman (Will Rice '23). While you may already recognize him due to his viral TikTok fame, the true story of Jacob is one for the ages. Legend has it that numerous NBA teams offered Jacob a max contract after witnessing his extraordinary dunking abilities, but he turned them down to pursue a double major in Economics and Sports Analytics at Rice. With his NBA aspirations behind him (unless a GM spot opens up..), Jacob now spends his free time cultivating his creative outlets; from making classical music go hard with his masterful violin skills to 3-stocking everyone in Smash with his world-class Mr. Game and Watch. One of the nicest people you'll ever meet, Jacob will always give you a friendly wave and will gladly share his snacks with you—unless it's servery milk of which he consumes at least 10 per day. If you're lucky enough to have Jacob as your Co-Advisor, just know that you're getting a bright, hilarious, genuine person who will keep you on your toes and make you feel at ease at the same time. He never fails to offer an entertaining story or clever joke that will brighten up your day and is always down to have an awesome adventure with you (or pull an epic prank on you).

-Ajay Kumar, Will Rice '23

Mrike Ayodeji | Advisor | McMurtry

AYOOOOOOO!!! Do you know Mrike AYOdeji? If not, you are surely missing out. Besides being McMurtry's one and only senator, Mrike is an avid hater of all things consulting. You might be wondering why she is on the Pre-Med track. The answer? Her deep passion for AP Biology, her favorite class in high school: <https://www.peddie.org/student-life/life-at-peddie/mrike>. Mrike is a frequent Twitter user whose insightful reasoning extends beyond her years. Although she was a failed child chess prodigy, she won't fail at giving you excellent advice about life at Rice.

All jokes aside, Mrike's energy and enthusiasm will make her the best Advisor you could ever ask for! Not only will she be there for you in times of stress, but also in all of the great times as a supportive friend. She'll give your O-Week that special spice to make it an unforgettable experience.

-Naman Dandia, Clara Ursic, Arie Ogranovich, McMurtry '24

List of Affiliates

Affiliates are O-Week personnel who serve specific roles designed to help you with your transition to Rice. Although they are paired with specific groups, they are an important and readily available resource for all New

Students at the college. If an Affiliate is assigned to your group, they may not always be present for every group activity, as they will provide specialized resources as needed. Be sure to meet all of the Affiliates present, as they are incredibly important campus-wide resources during O-Week and beyond.

O-Week 2021 Affiliate List & Emails:

PAAs (Peer Academic Advisors):

Maria Hancu, **PAA**, mch12@rice.edu

Cassidy Kurita, **PAA**, cmk9@rice.edu

Luey Garcia, **PAA**, slg7@rice.edu

Nickolas Chen, **PAA**, nc44@rice.edu

DFs (Diversity Facilitators):

Manshi Patel, **DF**, mpp5@rice.edu

Natasha Patnaik, **DF**, np37@rice.edu

RHA (Rice Health Advisor):

Annika Nambiar, **RHA**, an44@rice.edu

Photographer and Videographer:

Daniel Cho, **Videographer**, djc8@rice.edu

Sophie Marx, **Photographer**, shm7@rice.edu

Athletics Liaison:

An Luu, **Athletics Liason**, ahl4@rice.edu

Gophers:

Hayden Mast, **Gopher**, hlm6@rice.edu

Cortez Walters, **Gopher**, cdw5@rice.edu





Chapter Five: The End

Common McM Lingo

Associate's Night: A formal dinner held in your college's commons once a semester to honor the Associates. Dress up and come eat good food with interesting people.

Beer Bike: A very competitive, inter-college race/event held every spring, in which ten bikers and ten chuggers from each college compete in an epic struggle for personal and college pride.

Birthday Gong: A beautiful, golden gong located in the Commons and carved with the McM crest that people ring when it's their birthday.

Burt's Tea House (Burt's): A McMurtry communal kitchen located on the Fifth Floor. There's free tea and mugs available to any Murt who wants to relax, enjoy the view, or engage in conversations.

Chaus: A nickname for Rice Coffeehouse. Located in the RMC, stop by when you need your daily dose of caffeine or a chill place to study.

Chug: One half of the Beer Bike race. Often preceded by one of Rice's most sacred chants:



"They're forty yards out, they're thirty yards out, ready, set suck suck suck suck...!"

College Night: Not just a night, but actually a full day of themed partying held every semester, where your entire college celebrates its awesomeness together. Every college has its own.

Conch: Whenever you hear this beautiful instrument trumpeted, know that it is time to rally and show the other colleges our Murt pride!

DeeDee's Lounge: Located on the 5th floor, this room is a common space for people to watch TV or play Super Smash Bros on the Wii.

Fellow: Murts who are dedicating to helping other Murts in various subjects who you will get to meet shortly after O-Week.

FITQ (Fit Q): Friday in the Quad is a gathering for Murts every other Friday, typically with free food, good music, and good friends.

Fondy: Fondren Library is a great place to study, conduct meetings, rent out media equipment, do research, and many other things.

Housing & Dining: The administrative office in charge of all food service and residential buildings on campus. Often referred to as H&D for short. Make sure to thank them for all they do!

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.

Ironman/Ironwoman: Someone who both rides and chugs at Beer Bike (not at the same time). A class act and a real hero.

Jack: To pull a prank, usually on another college. The more clever and over-the-top (without being destructive/offensive) the better.

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

McTriculation: Ceremony held during O-Week to officially welcome you to McMurtry.

McTeam: McM Adult Team (Magisters, Resident Faculty Associates, Resident Associates, Coordinator)

Murt: A resident of McMurtry College (YOU!)

OC (Off Campus): People who live off campus are referred to as "being OC." People who live far away from Rice, or seem to spend a lot of time outside the hedges are referred to as "deep OC."



Private: A party thrown by a group of people in a residential college, rather than the whole college. The rules and regulations are outlined by the Alcohol Policy.

Public: A party thrown by a residential college. Most colleges throw one per semester, some throw one per year. Open to any Rice undergrad. All are themed, so dress appropriately! Always feature a poppin' dance floor.

Quad: McMurtry Quad is a gathering place for Morts to eat at the picnic tables, play soccer in the grass, or just hang out. See also, FITQ.

RMC: Rice Memorial Center is the home of Chaus, Student Success Initiatives, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Office of Academic Advising, and many other great resources. This building can be found in the middle of campus.

Room Draw (Jack): The process we use to assign rooms for the next year.

Servery: The kitchen where your everyday food is made. The resident chef resides here. Every college either has its own servery or shares one with nearby colleges (McMurtry's is West Servery).

Sallyport: The huge archway in Lovett Hall. Once you pass through during Matriculation you are not to step foot through here until graduation.

Suite: The common rooms that are shared by 6 Morts found near each of the stairwells. Some are closed suites and you will need one of the suite owners to let you in while others are open suites and ready for any Murt to stop by and hang with friends.

Town Hall: Biweekly meetings used to discuss various Murt events and policies. All Morts are encouraged to attend and lend their voice.

The Hoot: Located in the RMC, this is a great place to stop by for some late-night food or snacks.

Beer Bike Week: The week preceding Beer Bike, filled with college activities, alumni, and plenty of jacks!



Y2K: The best public party of the year! Get ready for awesome throwback music and lots of fun with friends. Every February in the McM Commons.

Yurt: McMurtry Commons named after its resemblance to the Mongol dwelling.

What to call people from other colleges?

Baker - Bakerite | Brown - Brownie | Duncan - Duncaroo

| Hanszen - Hanszenite | Jones - Jonesian | Lovett - Lovetteer | Martel - Martelian |
Sid Rich - Sidizen | Wiess - Wiessman | Will Rice - Will Ricer

Last Minute Advice

Before we bid you farewell (until O-Week, of course) we wanted to leave you with some of the compiled wisdom of the Coordinators and the Advising team. This is a short list of some final advice we think might be helpful, both for this summer and for your time at Rice. We absolutely cannot wait to meet you, and we are so happy to have the opportunity to introduce you to this wonderful university!

For the summer:

- Read all the information coming from Rice.
- Keep track of what is due to Rice: <https://success.rice.edu/first-year-programs/o-week/new-student-checklist>
 - Pack earlier than later — it usually takes longer than expected.
- Coordinate with your roommate(s) about what you're bringing (furniture, rugs, appliances).
 - Don't try to learn everything there is to know about Rice. Let some things be a new experience!
 - Spend time with your loved ones; they'll miss you and you'll miss them.
- Don't spend the summer stressing about college! Leave the browsing through class options or researching extracurriculars for O-Week. We promise we will do everything we need to do during O-Week for you to feel ready for your first semester.

For your time at Rice:

- Don't let limit your experiences to McMurtry. Make friends across campus, in classes, and in clubs.
- The amount of underwear you own dictates the number of days you can go without doing laundry.
 - Brings lots of lightweight clothing (and deodorant). Houston is hot in August.
 - Also, do bring a couple of nice jackets. It can get surprisingly cold in January.
- Find a good place to study early on. Explore! Try the various floors of Fondy, the Commons, Brochstein Pavilion, Coffeehouse, Rayzor Hall, whatever works for you!
- Get to know the McTeam and reach out to them when you need help or just want to talk to someone who has more life experience!



- Make time to call home.
- Don't lose your ID card. It gets you into important buildings and, more importantly, gets you food.
 - Don't use all your Tetra points in the first month.
 - Try new things! There's a time and place for everything — it's called college.
- There's more to Rice than McMurtry. If you want to get acquainted with other colleges, ask your Co-Advisor to introduce you to their home college!
- Feel free to ask current Rice students about anything Rice-related, but also remember that each student's experience is unique. Don't let one person's experience discourage you from trying out something you're excited about.
- Use the Metro or find a friend with a car! Go outside the hedges and explore Houston. It's a great city.
 - Buy a water bottle and make it your best friend.
 - Keep an umbrella on you if there's even a slight chance it will rain that day.
 - Recognize and understand imposter syndrome.
- Never leave your clothes in a washer or dryer after the cycle is over. Be there to take them out right as the cycle ends. Seriously.
 - Make time to go to shows, exhibits, parties, and games.
- If you're having issues with your roommate, talk about them. Don't let them build up to the point where you can't stand each other.
 - Explore the Serveries.
 - Get to know your professors. Seriously, they're amazing.
 - Go to office hours. Do it.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help. There are people willing to help you with anything. All you have to do is ask.
- Don't feel like you need to have life figured out now. Or after O-Week. Or after your first semester. This is just the beginning of your journey.
 - Most importantly:

Breathe. We know things are crazy right now and you might be feeling uncertainty towards how it will affect your first year at Rice. But don't worry. We got you.



Outtakes

As you'll quickly see, Rice is filled with amazing people passionate about their courses, friends, and extracurriculars. But sometimes, it can feel like the people around us are handling it all, while we're struggling. We know this can be isolating, but many of us have been through similar things and want to share what we've learned. Whether it's after your first college exam, adjusting to a new routine, or trying to navigate the social scenes, it's ok to feel unsteady. But as Coordinators and Advisors, we can guide you to the best resources, offer advice, or just listen. Still ... while we're resources and have plenty of experience, we're not perfect. We don't always know what we're doing or get it right the first try. So enjoy our outtakes as proof we're not perfect people, we're just your Coords, Advisors, Murts, and friends. We can't wait to meet you!



See You Soon!

We hope this book was as useful to you as our O-Week book was to us during our first years at Rice. Absorb the information, refer back to it for questions, but remember — no matter what situations you encounter here, you'll always be surrounded by Morts 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.

Whether you're unsure about your academic path or you've simply forgotten your bedsheets, don't worry about coming to Rice feeling unprepared. Our Advisors 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 Coordinators, we've made it our goal for O-Week to place you in the best position possible to reach your full potential at Rice.

Welcome to the McMurtry family, and as you come to join us, we urge you to keep an open mind, challenge yourself, be willing to take risks, be willing to fail, and, most importantly, never be afraid to ask for help. College is a rollercoaster that can be filled with high highs and low lows. The greatest and most challenging thing about Rice is the abundance of opportunities it offers. It's easy to become overwhelmed by the sheer volume of things being thrown your way, but some of these can also turn out to be your greatest points of growth.

Our advice is to not get frustrated with yourself for the opportunities you'll inevitably have to pass, but also grab ahold of whichever ones do genuinely interest you. Remember, how something will supposedly serve your future goals is not what's most important, as you never know how branching out may reshape your idea of that future.

From the moment you opened this book, you gained a family and support system in us and McMurtry, and we will always be here through all of the ups and downs. We can't wait to see what you'll accomplish, how you'll develop, and how you will succeed as a part of the Rice community. We will always be here to help you in any way that we can. Buckle up and enjoy the ride!

So, please do enjoy the rest of your summer. Make sure to check your emails every day as the planning surrounding O-Week 2021 and the fall semester continues to unfold. You'll be in good hands at McMurtry and we can't wait to see you in August! Though we know that starting college can be very unnerving, trust us when we say: you belong.

Murt Love,
Jazmine, Josselyn, & Rajpal
2021 Bibbidi Bobbidi BoO-Week Coordinators

The End...



And A New Beginning
Welcome to Rice