



**FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN**

Welcome to Carnegie Mellon University and to your inaugural issue of [\*The Fence Post\*](#), our quarterly e-newsletter to parents and family members of our current undergraduate students. In the Office of First-Year Orientation and Family Engagement, my team works with parents and family members to share campus resources, communicate about campus events and information, and plan engagement opportunities such as [Family Weekend](#).

An important outcome of the undergraduate university experience is for our students to develop the life skills necessary to successfully navigate their personal affairs and develop independence as young adults. We also know that parents and family members play an important and supportive role in their student's life and are key partners in our students' success. To that end, we use this newsletter and other communication methods to provide information about campus resources, important events and developmental milestones in your student's experience, so that you can facilitate meaningful interactions with your student about their Carnegie Mellon journey.

I look forward to meeting many of you in person at [Family and Parent Orientation](#) and at other future campus events. Until then, please don't hesitate to reach out if I can be of any assistance. I look forward to engaging with you.

Julie Schultz  
Associate Dean for First-Year Orientation and Family Engagement  
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### Family Orientation Primer

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Before You Go: Learn more about the fun awaiting you during Move-In and Family Orientation on August 17-18.

[Read More](#)



### Building Meaningful Relationships

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Relationships with others on campus, from peers to faculty members, are key to a truly transformative college experience for first-year students.

[Read More](#)



### Academic Resources for First-Year Students

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Moving from high school to college classrooms offers new challenges for your student, but resources are available to assist first-year students with the transition.

[Read More](#)

## CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

### Picture It: Move-In and Orientation

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Explore this special time in your student's life through photos on CMU's [Flickr account](#) or watch videos posted to the CMU [YouTube account](#).

### Life at CMU Blog Spotlight: Meet the 2019 Head Orientation Counselors

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Go behind the scenes of Orientation Week to [meet the dedicated counselors](#) who will guide your student through many important and exciting steps during their first days on campus.

### Be Prepared

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CMU-Alert is Carnegie Mellon University's emergency notification system. Check in with your student to make sure they have accurate contact information on file with CMU. Want to stay in the know? Campus guests and family members can [enroll to receive alerts](#), too.

## CMU NEWS

[Researchers Develop First Mind-Controlled Robotic Arm](#)

[CMU Program Prepares New Generation of Diverse Researchers](#)

[Pipes and Drums Play On After Winning National Championship](#)

## UPCOMING DATES

- August 26: Classes begin
- August 31: [The Volunteer Fair](#)
- September 2: Labor Day (no classes)
- September 4: [THE FAIR](#)
- September 16-18: [Technical Opportunities Conference \(TOC\)](#)
- September 24: [EncompassCMU Career Fair](#)
- September 26: [University Lecture Series](#) featuring Michelle Alexander
- October 10: [University Lecture Series](#) featuring Emery N. Brown
- October 11-13: [Family Weekend](#)
- October 18: Mid-Semester Break (no classes)
- October 25-27: [Homecoming](#)
- November 11-15: Registration for spring semester
- November 27-29: Thanksgiving Break (no classes)

## RESOURCE QUICKLINKS

Visit the [Family and Parents website](#) for resources available to you and your student in the areas of [academics](#), [health and wellness](#), [finances](#), [safety](#), [student affairs](#) and [travel](#). You can also access [past issues of The Fence Post](#) on the site.

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