This newsletter reflects several student discussions that centered around the benefits and challenges of the commuting lifestyle. Many upperclassmen have made the adjustment and have put together some practical tips to share. Consider the following ‘tips’

**Benefits**: being able to maintain a local family life while going to college, you don’t have to give up home cooked meals, enjoying the privacy of home, saving money and being able to get away when desired.

**Challenges**: potential transportation problems, initially utilizing the University resources to the fullest, managing time for work, study and travel, helping family members adjust to your new life and schedule.

**Tips for managing your time and commuting**: Schedule enough time for travel including traffic, weather conditions, construction etc.; keeping an agenda with all your activities and commitments written in one place; bring course materials of other classes other than the ones for the day, in case there should be unexpected free time, you can get ahead in some other assignments; use the library and writing center as much as possible, the more you can accomplish on campus the less you have to do once you get home.

Try to manage your work schedule to be flexible and leave time for group projects, daytime studying and last minute work at the end of the semester. Select one club to become involved and be an audience member at events.

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**Practical Tips of Commuting**

- **Special points of interest:**
  - Looking for a job on campus? Then plan to attend the On-Campus Student Employment Fair on September 8 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Rivers.
  - Clubs and Organizations? Check out the Student Activities Involvement Expo on Thursday, September 10 in Rivers starting at 6 p.m.
  - Pick up a Student Senate Petition and run for an open seat. Let your voice be heard.
  - Center for Civic Engagement will be sponsoring a Student Engagement Fair on September 10 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Gazebo/Walkway. Learn about our Community Partners

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**“This Week @ WNE” Texting Program—NEW!**

Student Senate identified a new and improved method of keeping students informed about Campus Happenings. In partnership with Campus Police and the Office of Student Activities and Leadership Development, students may “opt in” to a texting app when signing up for E2Campus. If you “opt in” to the program called “This Week @ WNE” you will receive a weekly text telling you to check your e-mail for an updated listing of Campus Activities. Don’t miss out on a change in the schedule or added entertainers to a roster or even incentive prizes throughout the semester. You can “opt in” at anytime during the semester, but why wait, do it today and be in the “know!”
First Semester Activities—Don’t Miss Out!

The fall semester is packed with activity. Here are just a few so you can mark your calendars and plan ahead with work schedules etc. Get into the habit of checking the calendar on the Student Activities web page for updates. Don’t miss out on the programs and your student activities fees! You have paid for these activities, why not attend and enjoy them? This is a very small list of upcoming events.

September
5: Football vs. Springfield College 1 p.m. Golden Bear Stadium
6: WNEpalooza Music Fest 12 p.m. - 9 p.m.
7: Outing Club Hiking Trip
10: Student Activities Expo 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
12: CAB Comedy 7 p.m. Wood Auditorium
15: Latin Food Fest 12:30 p.m. Rock Café

October
2-4: HOMECOMING
8: Study Abroad Fair 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Mall area
16-18: Make a Difference Weekend
17-23: CAB Freak Week
30-31: Family & Friends Weekend

November
6: MIDNIGHT MADNESS 9 p.m. AHLC
7: World Fest 6:30 p.m. Rivers Memorial
8: Who’s Who Awards
13-14: Stageless Players presents “The Wizard of OZ” 7 p.m. and a 2 p.m matinee on Saturday, Wood Auditorium
22—Fall Music Showcase 3 p.m. Wood Auditorium

Closing and Delay Information

Closing and Delay Information

Please be advised of the various ways that we make important announcements concerning weather or emergency cancellations and delays:
1. Through the e2Campus notification system (registration required).
2. Go to the University's website homepage at www.wne.edu a banner will be posted regarding any closings or delays.
3. You may call the University's main telephone number at 413-782-3111 for a recorded message of the announcement.
4. You may listen to or watch the following radio or television stations:

Springfield, MA stations: WWLP-TV, WGGB-TV, WSHM-TV, WHYN Radio 560 AM or 93.1 FM, WPKX Radio 100.9

Pittsfield, MA stations: WBRK Radio 1340 AM or 101.7 FM

Chicopee, MA station: WACE Radio 730 AM

Hartford, CT stations: WTIC Radio 1080 AM or 96.5 FM, WRCH 100.5 FM, WZMX 93.7 FM

Every effort will be made to finalize decisions about cancelling day classes by 6:00 a.m., and, if necessary, the decision to cancel evening classes will be made by 2:00 p.m.

Each individual must make his or her own decision as to whether or not to travel to the campus if classes are not cancelled.

Students should be advised that, if classes/exams are not canceled and a student is unable to get to campus, it is the student's responsibility to contact the faculty member(s) to make appropriate arrangements.

Commuter Connection

Luncheon
September 24
October 22
November 19
12:30 p.m. Senate Chambers
Join us for lunch on us!
Campus Center Serves the Commuter

The Campus Center is often described as the “living room” for the Campus. It is a gathering place for the many constituents that use the services in the building. The services that are offered hopefully help the commuters to feel at home in between classes or meetings.

The Campus Center is more than a place to dine. One is able to stop into the offices in Student Affairs on the second floor or to the Career Development Center for assistance with jobs, resumes, internships. Student Activities and Leadership Development, Residence Life, Learning Beyond the Classroom and Center for Civic Engagement, Diversity Services all await your questions.

The first floor of the Campus Center hosts the Game Room, the Office of First Year Students and Students in Transition, student organization offices of Student Senate, Campus Activities Board and the Residence Hall Association. The “Blue and Gold” campus store offers imprinted WNE apparel and don’t forget Starbucks and the P.O.D. Commuters find it convenient to buy food points and may dine in the Rock Café or upstairs in Dining Room A. Points may also be used in the P.O.D. for snacks or the endless list of beverages in Starbucks. The Campus Center serves as a backdrop for many Mall programs, FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS and Late Night events.

The Campus Center is your living room on campus, visit with friends, get some work done, or just relax and watch some TV.

Commuter Connection

The Student Senate and the Student Activities and Leadership Development Office have established a Kodiak classroom for commuters in order to stay in touch and to be sure you are not missing out on campus news or events. The classroom has been set up exclusively for the commuting population. The Commuter Classroom provides an opportunity to network with each other. It also provides a forum for the commuters to voice unique concerns or questions for this population. It can provide an opportunity to coordinate a carpooling system for those interested in sharing the cost of gas and rides to cut down on gas prices or in the upcoming months of bad weather. If you are interested in becoming a member of the classroom, please respond to an e-mail we will send out for you to “opt in.” Let your voice be heard!

Leadership Series to Begin

First year students and Sophomores who are interested in pursuing leadership opportunities or strengthening your skills should consider registering for the either the Emerging Leader program for First Year students or the Art of Leadership series for Sophomores. Peer Advisors and club officers will be asked to identified potential candidates to invite to participate in either the Tuesday series or the Thursday series, starting on October 20 or 22 from 12:30 to 2. Topics vary by series but include communication, leadership style and group dynamics.
### Writing Center

Tutors are available
Monday through Thursday between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., and Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

For additional information or to schedule an appointment, please contact the Office of Writing Support Services at 413-782-1263, stop in to the Writing Center (Herman 107), or fill out a form online.

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### Math Center

Tutors are available
Monday through Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., and Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

For additional information or to schedule an appointment, please contact the Math Center at 413-782-1692, stop in to the Math Center (Herman 309C), or fill out a form online.

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### D’Amour Library Hours

Monday - Thursday
7:45 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Friday
7:45 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday
9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sunday
12:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Basement Computer Lab is open 24 hours

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### Plan Name | Description | Cost/Semester
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85 meals + $300 points | Allows you 85 all-you-care-to-eat meals plus $300 in Declining Balance Points per semester. These meals can be used to purchase breakfast, lunch and dinner for you and your guests too! *Unused meals do not roll over from semester to semester. | $1,275
55 meals + $150 points | Allows you 55 all-you-care-to-eat meals per semester and $150 in Declining Balance Points. These meals can be used to purchase breakfast, lunch and dinner at the RFoC for you and your guests too! *This meal plan is great for commuters! *Unused meals do not roll over from semester to semester. | $815
20 meals + $50 points | This plan provides you with 20 all-you-care-to-eat meals per week and $50 in Declining Balance Points for the semester. | $3,045
14 meals + $50 points | This plan provides you with 14 all-you-care-to-eat meals per week plus $50 Declining Balance Points for the semester. | $2,966

**Points**

All points can be used at any of our Dining Service locations. You can use them to purchase for your friends, family and yourself. Use them at Subway, Grille Works, Bene Pizzeria, the WPS Starbucks and POD Market, AHLC Cafe, Court Cafe and even upstairs in the RFoC. You can also use your points to purchase Domino's (on Boston Road) late-night delivery right to your door. Variety will never be an issue!

**Please Note:** Unused Declining Balance Points transfer from the fall to the spring semester. At the end of the spring semester, unused points do not transfer to the new academic year.