Welcome from Sarah Pelletier, Associate Director of Parent Programs

This welcome message is twofold. I joined WPI just a few short months ago, and I can say unequivocally I have received a warm welcome from the university community. Moreover, I welcome the opportunity to meet you, our parents, to learn about your son’s or daughter’s experiences here, and answer any questions you may have.

As you may know, all parents of enrolled undergraduates students are members of the Parents Association—a program that provides parent engagement opportunities that support the mission of our university. This includes volunteering at freshmen welcome BBQs, Move-In Day, Family Weekend, Office of Admissions open houses, and regional parent receptions.

Beginning at this year’s Commencement, a new parent tradition is starting: a photo area specifically for families at the post-Commencement reception. Please stop by and see us on the main level of the Sports & Recreation Center, take a photo with your new graduate, and pick up a complimentary photo frame.

Below you will find an article written by Ioannis

Events Calendar

4/15-18: Masque presents New Voices 33
4/19: WPI Orchestra and Concert Band Spring Concert, Alden Hall, 3:00pm
4/23: Project Presentation Day (No Undergrad Classes)
4/30- 5/2: VOX presents Cabaret
5/5: Last Day of Classes, D-Term
5/15: Baccalaureate Ceremony
5/16: Spring Commencement

147th Commencement

WPI’s 147th Commencement
Patias ’18. It offers a unique perspective: an international parent. Dr. Patias’s full story is posted on the Parents Association blog, which is another great way to stay connected to WPI. I invite you to visit the site regularly to read content created by fellow parents, submit blog entries, and comment on posts—the Parents Association Executive Committee (PAEC) and I welcome your feedback.

Yes, PAEC is another WPI acronym to familiarize yourself with. The PAEC serves in an advisory capacity on behalf of the Parents Association, and PAEC members take a leadership role in parent events throughout the year, act as my sounding board and voice for parents, and attend biannual meetings.

If you would like more information about the Parents Association or to complete a Parent Interest Volunteer Form, contact me at sepelletier@wpi.edu or 508-831-5308.

**Parent Perspective: Ioannis Patias, MSc, PhD, PMP, MBA, P’18**

As an international parent, it’s the positive feeling I received from the people at WPI that is my most memorable experience—not the time difference or the physical miles from Bulgaria to central Massachusetts.

But, let’s start at the beginning: deciding where to go to college. My son, Parmenion, made his own decision to study abroad in Greece. My wife and I completely supported him. Our beliefs are that the parents must provide options and assistance, not decisions.

We left Greece and visited WPI in August 2014, when Parmenion was a freshman. We attended the introductory events and met a lot of people. When watching people’s reactions to my son and our story, I constantly thought about what Nikos Kazantzakis wrote in his novel *Zorba the Greek* about teachers. He said, “There is no greater reward for the good teacher than this: making his student superior of him." Read more...

**Our Residence Halls Will Be Closing on May 7**

While we have greatly enjoyed having your student live with us, it is time to start making plans for moving out for the summer. If your student would will take place on Saturday, May 16. Undergraduate and graduate students will be crossing Earle Bridge and passing the proud goat statue one last time on their way to their seats on the Quadrangle. See Commencement details.

**Multicultural Affairs**

In April, the WPI Office of Multicultural Affairs is holding two important events:

*Ally Day*, on **4/9**, is designated to educating the WPI community on how to be an ally for LGBTQ+ persons. Programs will be held in the Rubin Campus Center from 12 to 4pm.

On **4/24**, we will participate in *Stand Against Racism Day*, a national event raising awareness about the impact of institutional and structural racism. We will hold programs from 11 to 4pm in the Rubin Campus Center.

**Two WPI Athletes Named All-American**

WPI track and field team member Laura Pumphrey ’15 was named All-American after she tied for fifth place in the high jump event at the NCAA Division III Track and Field Championship on March 14.

On March 15, wrestling team member Brian Amato ’17 also received All-America honors by placing eighth in the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships. Read more about these impressive athletic performances.

**Power Systems Webinars**

See more...
Your student would like to store belongings over the summer, Boomerang Storage will pick up their items, store them, and deliver them back next fall.

If students are interested in staying on campus this summer, housing is available in East Hall for students taking E-Term classes, working in the area, or doing internships. Students can find more information on our new website (login required).

Residence Halls close at noon on Thursday, May 7. Students will have a number of opportunities to check out throughout that week. Our schedule will be listed on our website by mid-April, and Resident Advisor staff will also conduct closing meetings to provide additional information.

Discounted Summer Courses

Summer is an ideal time for your student to get ahead, make up a class, or work on a project requirement. Students can choose from more than 50 courses, with flexible online and evening options. Tuition for all courses and projects is discounted at least 30 percent. Students who need to repeat a course because of a “No Record” will receive a 50 percent discount. For more information, visit wpi.edu/summersession or email Sara Ringer.

Financial Aid Reminders

For students applying for financial aid for 2015-16 school, the WPI Financial Aid Upper Class Application was due on March 20. We will still take these forms if you missed the deadline, so please get them to us quickly.

The 2015-16 FAFSA is due by April 15. If you complete your 2014 federal tax return at least two weeks prior to filing your FAFSA, we encourage you to use the FAFSA Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) to import your accurate income information to the FAFSA from the IRS.

Students attending summer sessions who are borrowing federal or private loans must submit the Summer Application for Student Loans.

Bursar's Office Address Change

WPI is changing the mailing address for checks sent to the Bursar’s Office:

WPI Office of the Bursar
100 Institute Road
Worcester, MA 01609

You can also save a stamp by having payments applied to your student account immediately. Our secure eBill system allows you to make payments online for free using an AHC check. See our website for instructions.

Connect with us:

Follow @WPI on Twitter
Like WPI Parents on Facebook
Follow @WPI on Instagram
If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: Unsubscribe.

Dean of Students
100 Institute Road
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609
US