



WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Come to Parents Weekend at WPI!

Friday, September 25, to Sunday, September 27, 2009

See all that WPI has to offer. Experience a taste of life on our campus. Spend time with your student. Participate in exciting activities: presentations, musical and theatre performances, sporting events, and more.

For a full schedule of events and to register, go to wpi.edu/+parents/Weekend.



100 Institute Road
Worcester MA 01609

WPI Parents Weekend

September 25-27, 2009



The WPI community invites you and your family to Parents Weekend—a unique opportunity to experience a taste of life on the WPI campus.

Spend time with your student while participating in some exciting campus activities. There's sure to be something to delight everyone. This schedule describes a variety of events ranging from faculty presentations, to musical and theatre performances, to sporting events. We hope you'll take this opportunity to become better acquainted with WPI and all it offers.

This year we're pleased to present the WPI Parents College. Several sessions will be offered on Saturday, providing a great opportunity for you to participate in lively discussions, informative talks, and interesting demonstrations by WPI faculty and students engaged in cutting-edge research. Be sure to peruse some of the session highlights in the schedule.

Parents Weekend will also give you and your family the opportunity to participate in some events in the area—visit the acclaimed Worcester Art Museum or tour Fenway Park in Boston.

Should you have any questions, contact us at the Campus Center and Student Activities Office, 508-831-5291 or pw@wpi.edu. We're quite proud of our WPI community and wish to share it with you and your family. We look forward to seeing you on Parents Weekend!

It's all relative.

Where to stay...

Beechwood Hotel 363 Plantation St, Worcester 800-344-2589
Courtyard by Marriott 72 Grove St, Worcester 800-321-2211
Courtyard by Marriott 3 Technology Dr, Westboro 508-836-4800
Crowne Plaza Hotel 10 Lincoln Sq, Worcester 800-227-6963
Days Inn 889 Boston Tpk, Shrewsbury 800-329-7466
Fairfield Inn & Suites 718 Southbridge St, Auburn 508-832-9500
Hampton Inn 110 Summer St, Worcester 508-757-0400
Hampton Inn 736 Southbridge St, Auburn 508-832-5531
Hilton Garden Inn 35 Worcester Center Blvd, Worcester 508-753-5700
Holiday Inn Express 1012 Johnson St, Auburn 800-465-4329

Where to eat...

Ethnic Dining

Biagio's Grille 257 Park Ave, Worcester 508-756-7995
Bocado Tapas Wine Bar 82 Winter St, Worcester 508-797-1011
Dragon Dynasty 104 Highland St, Worcester 508-755-3810
El Basha West 256 Park Ave, Worcester 508-795-0222
Haiku 258 Park Ave, Worcester 508-459-3033
Mezcal Mexican Cantina 166 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-926-8308
O'Connors 1160 W Boylston St, Worcester 508-853-0789
The Red Lantern 235 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-795-0500
Sahara Cafe & Restaurant 143 Highland St, Worcester 508-798-2181
Shiraz Armenian Cuisine 259 Park Ave, Worcester 508-767-1639
Surya Indian Cuisine 299 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-752-3700
Tortilla Sam's Fresh-Mex 107 Highland St, Worcester 508-756-7267
VIA Italian Kitchen 89 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-754-4842

Fine Dining

111 Chophouse Restaurant 111 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-799-4111
Block Five 139 Green St, Worcester 508-767-3483
Coral Seafood 225 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-755-8331
The Sole Proprietor 118 Highland St, Worcester 508-798-3474
Tribeca 92 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-754-7600

Pub/Casual Dining

Boynton Family Restaurant 117 Highland St, Worcester 508-756-8458
Brew City Grill 104 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-752-3862
Flying Rhino Café 278 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-757-1450
Junior's Pizza Grille 346 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-459-5800
Northworks Bar & Grille 106 Grove St, Worcester 508-755-9657
Peppercorns Grille & Bar 455 Park Ave, Worcester 508-752-7711
Piccadilly Pub 480 Shrewsbury St, Worcester 508-755-1808

This selected guide to area accommodations and restaurants does not represent recommendations from WPI. Others can be found in the local telephone directory. All establishments listed are within 10 minutes of WPI.

What to wear...

Dress casually and comfortably for this fun-filled weekend of activities.

How to get here...

From the east—Take Mass. Turnpike (I-90) to Exit 11A (I-495). Proceed north to Exit 25B (I-290), then west into Worcester. Take Exit 18 (Lincoln Sq., Rte. 9), turn right at end of ramp, then an immediate right before next traffic light. At next light, proceed straight through, bearing to the right on Salisbury St. At the WPI sign, turn left onto Boynton St., then right onto Institute Rd. Take your first right (Private Way).

From the north—Take I-495 south to Exit 25B (I-290). Follow directions from east.

From the south and west—Take Mass. Turnpike (I-90) to Exit 10 (Auburn). Proceed east on I-290 into Worcester. Take Exit 17 (Lincoln Sq., Rte. 9), turn left at end of ramp, follow Rte. 9 west through Lincoln Sq., straight onto Highland St., then right at light onto West St. Travel one block and cross Institute Road (onto Private Way).

A campus map will be provided at registration. In the meantime, check out our walking map at wpi.edu/+map.

Where to park...

Generally, all WPI parking lots will be open throughout Parents Weekend. There are handicapped parking spots on the Quadrangle—adjacent to Bartlett Center and across from Harrington Auditorium.

Where to shop...

The WPI Bookstore (Campus Center, main level) is the place to purchase your WPI Parent apparel. Throughout Parents Weekend, there will be a 10% discount on all WPI apparel, gifts, and general leisure books. Bookstore hours are 8am to 6pm on Friday, 10am to 7pm on Saturday, and 10am to 2pm on Sunday.

Dunkin' Donuts, located in the Campus Center, will also be open on Saturday from 8am to 6pm and Sunday from 8am to 11am.

Questions?

If you have any questions about registration or the schedule of events, please contact Student Activities at 508-831-5291 or pw@wpi.edu. Check for additional information at www.wpi.edu/+parents/Weekend.

Friday, September 25

- 3:00–8:00pm** **Arrival and Registration**
Campus Center, Lobby
Pick up your registration packet, which includes a full schedule of events. Staff members will be available to answer questions.
- 4:00–5:30pm** **WPI Legacy Reception** (invitation only)
Higgins House, Gardens
This reception celebrates the family ties within our WPI community, including parents, grand parents, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, and/or other distant relatives. An invitation will be sent to your student. (Rain location: Higgins House, Great Hall)
- 5:00–8:00pm** **Dinner on your own**—Experience one of Worcester’s many dining options.
- 7:00pm** **Boston Red Sox vs. New York Yankees**
Goat’s Head Restaurant, Founders Hall
Come watch the game and enjoy the fare at our newly opened pub style restaurant.
- 8:00pm** **South Pacific**
Alden Memorial
WPI theatrical talent abounds! Well known for its extraordinary score, *South Pacific* portrays Americans stationed in the South Pacific Islands during WWII. Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$10 students. Doors open 30 minutes prior to the performance.
- 8:00–10:00pm** **Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian**
Fuller Labs, Perreault Lecture Hall
Security guard Larry Daley infiltrates the Smithsonian Institute in order to rescue Jedediah and Octavius, who have been shipped to the museum by mistake. Presented by Social Committee (SocComm). Rated PG.
- 8:00pm–Midnight** **Bowling at Gompei’s Gutters**
Alumni Gymnasium, Lower Level
Don’t miss this bowling experience, complete with black lights, glow-in-the-dark balls, and great music. Use the coupon you’ll receive at registration for a free game of bowling for the family! (Additional games are \$3.00 per person for game and shoe rental.)

Saturday, September 26

- 8:00am–2:00pm** **Arrival and Registration**
Campus Center, Lobby
Pick up your registration packet, which includes a full schedule of events. Staff members will be available to answer questions.
- 8:30–9:15am** **Continental Breakfast**
Campus Center, Odeum
Relax with a complimentary cup of coffee and continental breakfast before the President’s Welcome at 9:15am.
- 9:00–10:00am** **Admissions Tour for Prospective Students**
Bartlett Center
The WPI Admissions Office will offer student-led campus tours at 9:00, 11:00, and 2:00, and an information session at 10:00 and 1:00 for any siblings who may be interested in learning more about what WPI has to offer. While walk-ins are welcome, please call 508-831-5286 or e-mail admissions@wpi.edu to pre-register.
- 9:15–10:15am** **President’s Welcome Address**
Campus Center, Odeum
Join us for welcome remarks by WPI’s 15th president, Dennis Berkey.
- 10:00am–Noon** **Worcester Art Museum**
55 Salisbury Street, Worcester
Just two blocks from campus, the Worcester Art Museum is acclaimed for the quality of its collections. Admission is free to the public from 10 to 12 on Saturdays; at other times throughout the weekend, admission is \$10 adults, \$8 seniors/students with ID, and free for WPI students with ID or those 17 and under.
- 10:00–11:00am** **Admissions Information Session for Prospective Students**
Bartlett Center
Details above at 9:00am
- 10:30–11:20am** **Parents College Session I**
Choose one of these educational sessions. Feel free to attend with your student.
- My kid wants to go where? ... to do what?**
Olin Hall 107
Natalie Mello, Director of Global Programs
Worcester to Windhoek, Boston to Bangkok, DC to Denmark. Learn about the various

opportunities WPI students have to complete degree required projects. The IQP and MQP will be decoded and demystified. The application process and qualifications will be discussed.

Navigating the Social Media Waters: How to connect with your kids online

Salisbury Labs 104

Jon Bartelson '01, Director of Computing Services
The use of social media on the Internet has blossomed over the last few years—Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter have experienced significant growth, particularly from college students and young professionals. Come learn how to connect and communicate with your student online using these tools.

Return on Your Investment: How to jump-start your career

Salisbury Labs 115

Career Development Center

This session will provide you with tips about what students can do during their college years to begin establishing a career prior to graduation. Join the Career Development Center and corporate representatives to learn about the benefits of internships and co-ops. A brief presentation will be followed by questions and answers.

Health Benefits of Cranberries

Salisbury Labs 105

Terri Camesano, Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering

Cranberry has long been recognized for its benefits to the urinary tract. This fruit is also high in antioxidants and has known cardiovascular, anti-aging, and possibly even anti-cancer effects. Cranberries are also very important for the economy of Massachusetts. We will discuss some of the unique properties of cranberries and learn the science behind the benefits.

11:00am–Noon Admissions Tour for Prospective Students

Bartlett Center

Details at 9:00am

11:00am Women’s Field Hockey vs. MIT

Alumni Field

11:00am–4:00pm Bowling at Gompei’s Gutters

Alumni Gymnasium, Lower Level

Details Friday at 8:00pm

11:30am–12:20pm Parents College Session II

Choose one of these educational sessions. Feel free to attend with your student.

Spend the Day with a Knight

Salisbury Labs 115

Jeffrey Forgeng, Adjunct Associate Professor of History and Curator, Higgins Armory Museum
The Higgins Armory Museum in Worcester is the world's leading center for the study of how medieval knights used their arms and armor, and every year teams of WPI students develop projects that interpret this research for local and global audiences. Experience the technology and techniques behind a knight's battlefield equipment, and how it shaped the medieval world of castles and kings.

Using Impossible Problems to Engage Students

Salisbury Labs 104

Jill Rulfs, Associate Professor of Biology & Biotechnology; David Spangel, Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Humanities & Arts; Helen Vassallo, Professor of Management; Kristin Wobbe, Head of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Associate Dean for the First Year

This session will discuss how WPI professors are using the problems facing our world today as a mechanism to help students get engaged with their education, learn important professional skills, and embark on the project-based learning that is a hallmark of the WPI education.

Greek Life at WPI

Salisbury Labs 105

Did you know that 30 percent of WPI students are involved in Greek Life? ...that fraternity and sorority members performed over 11,600 hours of community service last year? ...that Greeks raised over \$58,000 for charitable causes? This session provides a snapshot of WPI's Greek community.

Five Changes for Parents

Olin 107

Mike Weber, The Leadership Institute

The tears! The fun! The changes! Sending a student off to college is a series of ups and downs that transcends understanding! Mike Weber has been there! He examines five significant changes in how we interact as families in the transition to college. A must-see for parents of new students!

Lunch on your own Several dining options are available on campus:

Open 10:30am–Midnight: Grab lunch at the Campus Center Food Court—pasta, pizza, made-to-order sandwiches (Quiznos), and a fresh salad bar. All items sold a la carte.

Open 10:30am–1:00pm: Dine at Morgan Commons. On-campus WPI students can use their meal plans; guests enjoy the all-you-can-eat brunch for \$9.70. Make a reservation for additional family members using the registration form. Tickets must be pre-ordered.

12:00–4:00pm**Mini Golf, Baseball Speed Pitch, Basketball Toss, and More!**

Quadrangle

Can you hit a hole in one? Challenge your family members to a game of mini golf, basketball toss, speed pitch, and more right on the Quad. (Rain location: Campus Center, Odeum)

12:30–2:00pm**Boston Baked Blues**

Quadrangle

This blues band with soul ranges from swing, to R&B, to down-in-the-alley old time blues. Don't miss the sounds and stylings of this Boston-based band. (Rain location: Campus Center, Odeum)

12:30–2:00pm**BBQ and Snacks**

Quadrangle

Grab a burger, hot dog, popcorn, or ice cream—a perfect afternoon treat, compliments of Student Government Association and Fraternity and Sorority Life. (Rain location: Campus Center, Odeum)

1:00–3:00pm**Tie-Dye Fun**

Quadrangle

Stop by the SocComm table and tie-dye a Parents Weekend T-shirt. An annual favorite among parents, students, and siblings! (Rain location: Campus Center, Odeum)

1:00–3:00pm**Get Your Goat On!**

Quadrangle

Get your picture taken with WPI's famous and always energetic mascot, Gompei the Goat. (Rain location: Campus Center, Lobby)

1:00–2:00pm**Admissions Information Session for Prospective Students**

Bartlett Center

Details at 9:00am

1:00pm**Boston Red Sox vs. New York Yankees**

Campus Center, Class of '46 Lounge

Watch the game on our big screen TV and enter a raffle to win Red Sox gear.

2:00pm**Football vs. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

Alumni Field

Tickets can be purchased at the gate.

2:00pm**South Pacific**

Alden Memorial

Details at 8:00pm Friday

2:00–3:00pm**Admissions Tour for Prospective Students**

Bartlett Center

Details at 9:00am

3:00–4:00pm**Robotics Lab Demonstration**

Campus Center, Odeum

See the latest creations of the WPI/Mass Academy Robotics Team. With over 130 WPI student-mentors on the team, this is one of the most popular activities on campus. Team members will demonstrate the winning moves of their internationally awarded FIRST robots. Audience volunteers will get a chance to operate the robots via remote-control. (Rain location: Riley Commons, lower level of Sanford Riley residence hall)

3:00–4:00pm**Are You Smarter Than a WPI Student?**

Olin 107

Modeled after the popular game show, Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?, test your wits against WPI students in several categories. The winner will receive a gift certificate toward dinner at an area restaurant. Presented by Residence Hall Council.

4:00–6:00pm**Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian**

Fuller Labs, Perreault Lecture Hall

Details at 8:00pm Friday

4:00–5:30pm**Parents Reception, Higgins House**

Hosted by the WPI Parents Fund, this reception will give you an opportunity to talk with other parents about their experiences, and experience a unique and beautiful space on campus. Light refreshments will be served.

5:30pm**Dinner on your own**

Enjoy one of Worcester's many dining options.

