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Transfer Student Orientation

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• Good morning. It's my job and my delight today is to offer the official formal welcome to you as new members of the Bronco family. We're glad you're here. You made a great decision when you chose Western Michigan University.

• We expect great things from you while you're a student here, and we know you'll accomplish great things when you're a proud Bronco alum--and believe me, that will happen sooner than you might think it possible at this point. Your next few years will be full ones and they will fly by with unbelievable speed.

• You may think you already know a lot about this university. Don’t get too comfortable with that feeling. You'll be surprised at every turn. Every time I think I know it all about WMU, I learn something new or we launch an exciting new initiative. You will be continually amazed at everything happening here—academic activities, of course, but also countless social and cultural opportunities.

• Take advantage of everything this university offers. Don’t just come to campus, attend your classes and head to your car. Talk to people, head to a football game or student recital. Become a part of the life of this University.

• Your studies come first, but I know you've already figured that out. But being a successful person means being able to balance work and fun. It means trying new things, meeting new people and learning outside the classroom. Don't miss a chance to do any of that.
• I hope to see you here in Miller watching Broadway shows; in the Richmond Center for Visual Arts or at the Dalton Center; in Bronco Stadium, Lawson Arena and Read Fieldhouse for athletic events; on the intramural fields having fun; and downtown enjoying the Kalamazoo community.

• Think about joining a student organization and plan on playing a leadership role now or in the future. Consider a study abroad program. Explore. Make friends with a faculty member (you'll be surprised at how easy it is). Read the paper everyday to find out what's happening and who's speaking on campus. Go to everything that sounds even remotely interesting. In short, take advantage of everything WMU has to offer. You will never regret it.

• I'm looking forward to getting to know as many of you as possible. When you see me on campus, don't be shy about introducing yourself and talking. I try to greet and talk with as many students as I can, but I'd love it if you tap me on the shoulder as we're standing in line at Bigbees and just tell me who you are and how your student experience is going.

• As the next couple of years speed by--and believe me they will--I will watch your progress with pride. In due course, I'll be standing on the Miller Auditorium stage to shake your hand and present your diploma. It will be a moment in which we both will feel a great sense of accomplishment.

Welcome to WMU. Enjoy your orientation activities, and get ready for the ride of a lifetime.
(Approximately 5-6 minutes)