May 1, 2006

Dear :  

Greetings from The College of St. Scholastica! We are already planning for your arrival next fall. We selected five outstanding Peer Mentors, some who were in your shoes a year ago who will help you with your transition from high school to college. By now you should have received an initial letter introducing FYDP to you. I encourage you to ask all the questions that come to your mind regarding FYDP, coming to CSS, and adjusting to college life!

I want to remind you to reserve the week before classes begin (Sunday August 27 – Friday September 1) for the FYDP Summer Bridge program. You will move into your dorm room and begin college life one week early in order to get a jump start on your new academic and social life! Please remember that you must attend Summer Bridge in order to attend CSS in the fall. There are no exceptions.

Hopefully you have registered for a Summer Orientation date listed on the Admissions web page http://www.css.edu/x2326.xml. Before you attend, please remember to look at following resources to become familiar with course offerings and procedures. They are listed below:

The College Academic Catalog http://academics.css.edu/catalog/current/
This gives you an outline of the requirements to earn a degree, to complete a particular major, and other policies The College asks you to acknowledge.

The Advisement Manual http://www2.css.edu/publications/advisor/
This manual gives you a practical visible document of the classes and requirements needed to complete a particular major and minor. I strongly suggest that you look at a number of different “schemas,” our way of outlining the requirements for a major. If you are thinking of Nursing as your major, I suggest looking at Occupational Therapy and Exercise Physiology schemas as well. If you are an English major, I suggest you look at the Humanities or History major schemas. This will allow you to become more familiar with The College’s offerings and possible majors if the one you are intending does seem to fit once you begin.

In The Advisement Manual, print off” the First Year Schedule worksheet. It is located in the Advisement Manual under “Other Tools.” Once you begin to look at the course offerings and what is needed for your major, you can have a paper copy of what you want your schedule to look like.

The Course Offerings http://www2.css.edu/app/depts/reg/sched/
This website gives you an idea of what classes are offered at particular times. Please note that you must enroll in a Dignitas section, as all first year students do, and BAS 0900 Basic Study Skills. This is one of the FYDP requirements. It is located under Behavioral Arts and Sciences.

The Advisement Website http://www.css.edu/adviseme.xml
The Advisement Website will provide you with information and links to academic resources and advice.

In FYDP, we believe it is important for you to familiarize yourself with your goals and options before and you begin your college career. Create in yourself a sense of ownership in what you want to accomplish and become at The College and in life. With that in mind, please also visit the FYDP website as often as you
can. There will be updates and information regarding Summer Bridge, FYDP and Peer Mentors. The link is http://www.css.edu/FYDP.xml. There you will also find out more about the Peer Mentors, the Summer Bridge schedule from last year, and other helpful information. If you haven’t already, please send the FYDP Questionnaire back to me ASAP. This will help us plan to address and assist you when you arrive. It can be found on the FYDP website. Finally, please remember to return your Summer Bridge Reservation form and $100.00 fee. This will reserve your spot in FYDP. If for some reason you do not attend CSS or are moved out of FYDP, this fee will be given back to you.

I hope the last few months of your high school career is filled with many memories and experiences that will help define your presence in college. Take advantage of opportunities that will prepare you for college. By all means, stick to the grindstone and finish your high school career strong!

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with you next year. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns!

With Anticipation,

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