

2011-2012
Parent
Orientation
Handbook



REDEEMER
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE



Contents

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Welcome | 2 |
| Student Life Staff..... | 4 |
| Transitions | 6 |
| Academics | 8 |
| Academic Calendar | 9 |
| Student Life | 10 |
| Caring | 12 |

2
0
1
1
1

WELCOME

Dear Parents:

We are delighted and honoured that your son or daughter is joining us at Redeemer University College. As a Christian academic community, we are deeply aware of the responsibility entrusted to teachers, and we are committed to teaching, learning, scholarship and service that honour our Lord Jesus Christ and His reconciliation of all things.

Redeemer continues to be known for its high academic and teaching standards in courses and programs that are taught in the context of this Biblical world view, for our spiritually vibrant and caring campus community, and for our engagement in the life of our community. Our goal is to deepen the Christian faith of our students, lead them in developing their understanding and expertise and in their development as whole persons, as well as to equip them for Christian service and leadership in today's world.

We trust that your daughter or son will grow in many positive and fruitful ways, so that their Redeemer experience will enable them to become more and more conformed to the image of Christ, to develop the mind of Christ, and to live a life of obedience to Him.

Thank you for your trust and confidence. Please uphold us in prayer as we seek to fulfill our mission in the coming year.

Yours in Christ,



Hubert R Krygsman
President



Redeemer University College Mission Statement

The mission of Redeemer University College is: first, to offer a university-level liberal arts and science education which is Scripturally-directed and explores the relation of faith, learning, and living from a Reformed Christian perspective; and, second, to support research and creative endeavour in this context.

Central to this mission are the following objectives: to equip students for lives of leadership and service under the Lordship of Jesus Christ; to advance knowledge through excellence in teaching and in scholarship; to be an academic community in which faculty, staff and students can develop intellectually, socially and spiritually; to reach out through academic service to society; and in all these things to glorify God

Dear Parents,

Soon your son or daughter will be leaving for Redeemer. For some of you this will be a joyous transition, for others more sorrowful, and for many it will encompass a wide range of emotions. For some of you this is your first child leaving home, others are in the middle of the pack, and still others will soon be empty-nesters. My oldest daughter is off to senior kindergarten this fall and while she won't be leaving home I can relate to the milestones of children growing older. Parenting, as I see it, is a continual process of saying "hello" and "goodbye:" hello to that which is coming and goodbye to that which has passed. May God give us all strength to continue faithfully in our calling as parents: to let go of what we need to, to hold tight to what is essential and to gain the wisdom necessary to know the difference.

The theme for the year is "Come Unto Me," a call to Sabbath rest, taken from Matthew 11:28-30.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

We will be praying for you, the families of our students, and we trust that you will be praying for us as we strive to answer Jesus' call to receive his rest, take his yoke and learn from him. Please join us for prayer on Labour Day at the close of Parents' Orientation.

This booklet is designed to give you information about what you can expect in the transition to university (both for your child and for you!), academic and student life information, and opportunities available to you to care for and connect with your child. We hope you will find what you need within its pages and invite you to become acquainted with the people and services at Redeemer University College.

We look forward to meeting you and wish you every good thing as you embark on this transition.

Peace to you,
Karen Cornies
Dean of Students

Student Life Mission Statement

As Christ's servants and as educators, in partnership with our university colleagues, the Student Life staff invite students to develop a vital relationship with God, grow in genuine self-understanding, and actively engage the world of which they are a part. Through our services and programs we seek to weave learning into life, and to instill in our students the desire and courage to live redemptively, address injustice, discern culture, serve others, and offer leadership, so that God may be honoured.

The Student Life Staff

2011-2012

Dean of Students

Karen Cornies x 4468 kcornies@redeemer.ca

Assistant Dean of Students - Residence Life

Eileen Fallon x 4219 efallon@redeemer.ca

Career and Placement Co-ordinator

John Krueger x 4299 jkrueger@redeemer.ca

Disability Services Co-ordinator

Nancy Hartholt x 4220 nhartholt@redeemer.ca

Residence Life/International Student Co-ordinator

Hendrika Schoon x 4466 hschoon@redeemer.ca

Activities & Orientation Co-ordinator

Micah vanDijk x 4289 mvandijk@redeemer.ca

Departmental Assistant

Elizabeth Williams x 4228 stlife@redeemer.ca

Campus Chaplain

Pastor Syd Hielema x 4456 shielema@redeemer.ca

Associate Chaplain

Rob Powell rpowell@redeemer.ca



SCHOOL THEME 2011-2012: COME UNTO ME



When you chat with anyone in the hallways at Redeemer during the school year and ask them how they're doing, inevitably the first word that comes out of their mouth is "Busy!" University life is demanding: books to read, papers to write, people to talk with, activities to do. It's usually healthy to be busy, but being too busy easily becomes stressful and even spiritually suffocating.

This year's theme encourages us to find a place of rest within our busy-ness. Listen to Jesus' wonderful invitation: "Come unto me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matt. 11: 28-30). We'll spend the entire year trying to put on that "easy yoke" every day again.

Syd Hielema - Chaplain

An Invitation to Attend “Circle of Parents” on Labour Day

All parents of new students are invited to attend this meaningful hour of sharing concerns and hopes with one another including an opportunity to ask questions and a time of communal prayer. This hour will be led by the Student Life Department. Refreshments will be served. Please join us on Monday, September 5, 2:00 p.m. in Room 213.

Transitions Off To University

For most people, going to university is a milestone both in the life of the individual and in the life of the family. Not only will your son or daughter enter a new environment, but relationships at home will change as well. Of significance is the fact that now he or she will be making decisions without the immediate counsel and support of parents. Though there are many of us at Redeemer University College who are willing to assist with decision making, we cannot have the same relationship as parents. Our involvement in your son's or daughter's life will be different even though we may share many common interests and goals. You can rest assured that we'll do the best job we possibly can.

One of the major challenges faced by most university students is the development of self-discipline in their use of time. We urge you to counsel your son or daughter to see university as a “full-time job.” The adjustments and habits begun during the first year at university often serve as a springboard for future education and life situations. We hope that you will help your son or daughter loosen home ties gracefully and accept the responsibility of university as a mature adult.



Throughout the year, the Student Life Department reminds the student body well in advance about upcoming events, new policies/procedures, and deadlines (such as housing deposits, key returns, academic deadlines and so forth) through Time Out, a daily newsletter. We view each and every student at Redeemer University College as an adult and feel it is the student's responsibility to inform their parents/guardians of new policies, deadlines, new and cancelled events, etc. as the situation warrants.

Just as most jobs have their high and low points, going to university also has its moments of success and moments of failure. This will become apparent to you in the messages and phone calls. Encourage your son or daughter to keep an open mind and optimistic outlook towards university. Redeemer University College is a friendly place with warm and supportive Christian people eager to help whenever they can. However, often nothing warms the heart more than a memory of home via letters, phone calls, baked goods or other surprises to help maintain contact. These years of university can be a unique opportunity for you to develop a stronger friendship with your son or daughter.

It would be misleading for parents to assume that a small Christian university that is somewhat secluded can remove all of life's temptations from the university experience. Through regulations and example, Redeemer University College seeks to guide students to develop healthy, Christian attitudes and appropriate social behaviour. However, occasionally we must discipline some students for violating university regulations. We attempt to provide appropriate supervision of students' life on campus. However, we believe that the greatest deterrent to negative performance on campus is the nurture the students have received up to this point. We encourage you to find time over the next few weeks to discuss your hopes and your expectations with your son or daughter while they attend Redeemer. In turn, we hope we will have the opportunity to get to know your son or daughter well enough so that we can give the guidance, encouragement and insight necessary for a healthy university experience.

What follows is additional information you may find helpful. During the course of the coming school year, we hope you'll find time to visit our campus and give us the opportunity to become better acquainted with you. We think Redeemer University College is a great place, made available to us by the grace of the Lord, and we want very much to have your family share that view in the weeks ahead.



Can you compare this time in your life to any other transition? You've spent eighteen or more years nurturing and caring for your son or daughter and now they'll be leaving your nest. Some, more than others, will celebrate their freedom and make almost all decisions on their own. While most of the attention is on your son or daughter, you too are gearing up for some big changes in your family dynamics. This brief article can perhaps help you with the transition.

Redeemer University will do its very best to care for your child, but you as the parent still play a vital role. Because you know his/her strengths and limitations, you are in the best position to offer encouragement. Your support can have a tremendous influence on your child's attitudes and motivations.

You might be wondering how the Redeemer community will care for your son or daughter. We believe that as staff and faculty, we are given the privilege to carry on with the sacred work that you began so long ago; that is, to help him/her find their place in this world and to offer encouragement on the journey to finding meaning in life.

The joy of "complete freedom" will eventually wear off and there will be moments when your son or daughter will feel young and old all at the same time. To help you and your student through this stage and beyond, I offer a little quick wisdom for the transition.

R - Remember to always keep loving, supporting, and caring.

E - Eliminate major controversial discussions for the transitional period.

D - Demonstrate interest in what they're learning. By borrowing their books, you can model that learning is a life-long, joyful endeavour.

E - E-mail or snail mail, just send mail! Students love 'real mail' and hearing from home, community, church via newspaper articles and bulletins is an excellent way to keep him/her connected.

E - Experiences will be exhilarating at times, but some will also be accompanied by mistakes. Always trust your son or daughter and don't underestimate the impact of the guidelines and standards you spent years instilling.

M - Making new friends can be worrisome for some students. Be sure to stay in prayer for their friends always.

E - Environments will be different here. Encourage your daughter or son to explore and enjoy the potential challenges ahead.

R - Rest assured that God will continue to hold your daughter/son in the palm of His hand and that there will be great rejoicing at the end of four or five years here.

Academics

Academic Advisors:

Each student who enters Redeemer University College is assigned an academic faculty advisor who can help the student map out his/her educational career at Redeemer. The registrar's office also works closely with the student regarding course selection and requirements. Since we believe that each student must be the architect of his or her own life, it stands to reason that the ultimate responsibility for academic mapping must rest with the student. The advisor may suggest, encourage and also question the direction the student takes in fulfilling educational goals. It is, nevertheless, the student who ultimately makes the choices.

As a Christian liberal arts institution, we're interested in exposing our students to a broad range of academic disciplines. We also want to help them develop their abilities to think Christianly, and to learn to improve their communications skills. If these things happen, then learning specific job skills should be easier, as should dealing with an ever-changing job market.

For those students who are undecided about their educational future, the Student Life Department offers a number of tests and counseling services to assist the student in determining direction. There are also a number of programs on campus designed to assist the student who is having problems with a course or who aspires to a greater level of success. Help begins with our Study Smart Seminars and is available on a continual basis through our Academic Support Program. Tutors, proofreaders, and professional staff are available to assist students as well.

Information about Records

If you as a parent wish to receive information from Redeemer University College about your son's or daughter's grades or financial matters, the student must provide written consent to the Registrar and Business Office asking for such material to be sent to you. All communication regarding the student's grades or financial matters are given to the student.

Please note: Institutional policies or procedures stated within this workbook are subject to change.

When can I expect to see my child again?

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------|
| October | 10 | Monday | Thanksgiving Day |
| October | 27,28 | Thursday, Friday | Reading break |
| December - January | 22 - 8 | Thursday - Sunday | Christmas break |
| February | 20 - 24 | Monday - Friday | Reading break |
| April | 6 | Friday | Good Friday |
| April | 28 | Saturday | Summer Break |

Academic Calendar for 2011-2012

Fall Term

| | | |
|-----------|-------|--|
| September | 5 | Labour Day - Move-in and Check-in |
| | 6 | Orientation. |
| | 7 | Night Classes begin. Day classes begin. |
| | | Opening Convocation |
| | 16 | Last day to add a course. |
| | 28 | Prayer Chapel Service (Classes run on an adjusted schedule) |
| October | 3 | Last day to drop a course without a transcript entry. |
| | 10 | Thanksgiving Day. No classes. |
| | 11 | Tuesday day classes. Night classes run on Monday night schedule. |
| | 21-24 | Middle Days of Term |
| | 26 | No Night Classes |
| | 27-28 | Reading Break, No Classes |
| November | 2 | Last day to drop a course or change to audit. |
| | 9 | 'Zylstra' Lectures – Class Schedule not adjusted |
| December | 5-9 | Test and Quiz Free Week |
| | 9 | Last day of classes. |
| | 10-12 | Reading Days (to 12/12 at 2:00 pm) |
| | 12-17 | Final Examinations (Starting 12/12 at 2:00 pm, ending 12/17 at 5:00 pm) |
| | 19-21 | Final Examinations (Starting 12/19 at 2:00 pm, ending 12/21 at 10:00 pm) |

Winter Term

| | | |
|----------|-------|--|
| January | 7 | Dorms/Market Open for Move-in |
| | 9 | Classes begin. |
| | 18 | Last day to add a course. |
| | 18 | The World and Our Calling Lectures |
| February | 2 | Last day to drop a course without a transcript entry |
| | 20-24 | Reading week |
| | 28-29 | Middle Days of Term |
| March | 7 | Last day to drop a course or change to audit. |
| April | 6 | Good Friday - No classes |
| | 9 | Easter Monday - No day classes. Monday night classes meet |
| | 10-16 | Test and quiz free week |
| | 11 | Closing convocation |
| | 16 | Last day of classes |
| | 17-18 | Study days (to 04/18 at 2:00 pm) |
| | 18-21 | Final Examinations (Starting 04/18 at 2:00 pm, ending 04/21 at 5:00 pm) |
| | 23-27 | Final Examinations (Starting 04/23 at 2:00 pm, ending 04/27 at 10:00 pm) |
| May | 26 | Commencement |

Spring Session (2012-2013)

May 2 - June 22 (tentative)

Summer Session (2012-2013)

July 2-20 (tentative)

2
0
1
2

Student Life

Orientation (www.redeemer.ca/launch)

During the summer, we will be sending your son or daughter information about our orientation program. We think our orientation for students is an exciting way of helping them make the transition to university life. We plan to help them become familiar with their surroundings, meet new people, embrace our academic vision and connect them to the Redeemer community.

When students arrive in September they will discover fellow students and staff members (Student Life Staff, RA's etc.) on hand to assist with registration and moving in. The cafeteria will also be available for snacks and lunches on this day.

On Labour Day Monday we will have a special orientation scheduled for parents at 2 p.m. in Room 213. We encourage you to be present for this.

On Wednesday morning, September 7 at 11:00 a.m., you are welcome to join us for our opening convocation as we officially begin another academic year.

When are tuition and housing fees paid?

Tuition and housing fees are paid at registration on Check In Day, September 5, 2011. Any special arrangements or payment plans must be made in advance with the Business office.

What is an RA?

Each first year residence has a senior student leader called a Resident Advisor (RA). An RA is directly responsible for the supervision and organization of a first year residence. He/she will report weekly to the Assistant Dean of Students. The RA is also responsible for reporting all discipline matters and concerns to the Assistant Dean, and to be a spiritual leader within the residence. An RA provides a listening ear for dorm and peer concerns. He or she will contact your child in the summer (by August 1) as a way of introduction and to let you know in which dorm your child will be living.

Adjustment to Life in Residence

Becoming accustomed to residence living may be one of the most difficult adjustments your son or daughter will have to make. With some effort it can be done successfully. The student does well to remember that while she or he is adjusting to a new roommate, noises at night, someone else's study habits and people who seem to never go to bed, someone else is having to adjust to her or him. We've found that time, mid-term grades, and quiet reasoning together promote dorm harmony. We consider ourselves to be extremely privileged to have our townhouses and small living groups. However, personality problems still arise. It is the goal of our residential life staff to be available when help is needed.

Articles to Bring Along

Many parents enjoy assisting their son/daughter in purchasing the items he/she requires while in residence at university. The following items are necessary: Clothes hangers, bed linens (2 regular-size twin sets), pillow, blankets, towels, laundry bag/basket, laundry detergent, dishes, cutlery, cleaning rags, rubber gloves, tea towel & dish cloth, lawn chair, and items that feel like home (ie. music, pictures, plants, etc.). Toiletry items, snacks, and so forth, will also be the responsibility of each student. Redeemer residences are furnished

with a bed, desk, and dresser/closet for every student. Redeemer kitchens already have pots and pans, bakeware, kettle, teapot and cooking utensils.

Personal Property Insurance

Redeemer's property insurance does not cover student losses of personal property as a result of fire, flood or theft. Students are asked to put proper identification on things such as bikes, computers, stereos, televisions, etc. Please check with your insurance company to see if your son's or daughter's belongings are insured at Redeemer. If not, you may wish to insure your son's or daughter's personal property.

Address and Phone Number

All students and staff at Redeemer University College have mailboxes in the main academic building by the Cafeteria. You can contact anyone on campus using the address below:

[Name]

Redeemer University College
777 Garner Road East
Ancaster, ON L9K 1J4

Parents are encouraged to call their children by dialing directly to the residences. Students may be reached through the university's main switchboard or by dialing direct. Students should let their parents know their telephone numbers as soon as possible. If you have a touch-tone phone you can also reach any extension by dialing: (905) 648-2131 + ext.#, or (905) 648-2139 + ext.#. The switchboard operator is available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Some residences may choose to obtain their own separate Bell telephone line. The Resident Advisor will arrange for a telephone to be installed during the early part of September.

How Safe is the Campus?

You can be confident that the campus is a safe and secure environment in which to live, work and learn. The residences are set back behind a tree line which affords privacy and they are secured with self-locking doors. The Redeemer Security Team provides 24/7 security patrol and surveillance of the campus and emergency response to medical and other emergencies. Always remember that much of your child's safety depends on his/her alertness. If a student needs to make an emergency call, it is recommended that individuals call both 911 and the Redeemer University College Security at ext. 4444

Who Does My Child Talk to in Times of Distress?

The Redeemer University College Student Life Department provides for the needs of the student while they live and study at Redeemer. Should a student require or request assistance, the Student Life team is available to serve them to the best of their ability. Particularly in times of distress, a student is able to immediately turn to their RA who will then include a member of the Student Life Department or one of our professional campus counselors..

What Does My Child do if He/She becomes ill?

The Student Life Department should be contacted if a student has been injured or is sick and needs to see a doctor. There are local doctors who are willing to take new patients (Students can find these numbers in their agenda books).

Caring

R/uc Express Card

The R/UC Express Card, formally the Campus Card, we trust will be well received by the students. Funds are loaded on the R/UC Express Card and students are able to purchase food in all food service locations. If you are interested in adding money to your son's or daughter's Card, you can do so throughout the year in the form of Convenience Cash. Convenience Cash can be purchased for both students living in residence and commuting students and does not expire. For more information on how this works, please contact Campus Services at 905.648.2139 Ext. 4124 or www.redeemer.ca/rucexpress. We'd love to hear from you.

Care Packs

At exam time, people are able to purchase a CARE Pack (College Anxiety Reduction Essentials) as a "Finals Survival Kit." Send \$18.00 to the Student Life Department and your son or daughter will receive a package which may include such items as: Cookies, Candy Bars, Candy, Chips, Games, Granola Bars, Popcorn, Hot Chocolate, Tea, plus more surprises! Please note: We will give you advance notice via a letter each semester for ordering the packages.

Treat Program (www.redeemer.ca/treat)

Surprise someone with a special gift. Our Treat Program packages are a nice way to make the transition from home to school a little brighter, ease the stress of exams, celebrate a birthday, or just let someone know that you are thinking of them.

Thinking of You \$25

Re-usable mug, assorted herbal teas, soup mix, fair trade coffee, \$5.00 Williams gift certificate.

Cake Bonanza \$35

A cake for a dorm party, complete with balloons, plates, candles, forks and napkins

Hugs from Home - Sweet Tooth \$35

For the sweet tooth, a re-usable container filled with full size and bite sized chocolate bars, candy, cookies, soft drinks, and other assorted goodies.

Hugs from Home - Health Nut \$35

For the health nut, a re-usable container filled with full size and bite size granola bars, nuts, whole fruit, bottled water and other assorted healthy goodies.

Pizza Party \$45

Two large pizzas, two bags of munchies, and eight assorted canned pops.

Cookie Club \$56

Starting in October and ending in April, a dozen home baked cookies are attractively packaged and ready for pick up by your loved one. (Also available per month for \$12)

Place your order

- 1) via the on-line form.
- 2) by calling Food Services at 905.648.2139 extension 4255

Please make your cheque payable to Redeemer University College and your order to
Treat Program, Food Services
Redeemer University College
777 Garner Rd East
Ancaster, ON L9K 1J4

President's Guest House

Redeemer would like to extend an offer to visiting parents to come stay with us in our "President's Guest House." The guest house is on campus, so you can walk to your son's or daughter's residence. It has a fully equipped kitchen, living and dining area. This fully-furnished five-bedroom home can be rented to accommodate either individual travelers or up to 15 overnight guests. Visiting parents, as well as extended family, will be given a 10% discount (booking code: RUCparent). For more information please contact Campus Services at (905) 648-2139 Ex 4124 or email us at campusservices@redeemer.ca. We'd love to see you.

Stay connected to the Redeemer community

Parent eNewsletter

Subscribe to our Parent eNewsletter to read articles from parents, staff and faculty and receive updates on Redeemer events and news. This newsletter will be emailed five times per academic year or as needed. Email Valerie Louter to sign up: vlouter@redeemer.ca

Parent Page on Redeemer.ca

Visit redeemer.ca/parents and find links to helpful information, receive updates, and get involved in campus life at Redeemer.

reDiscover Redeemer Community Open House (FREE event)

Saturday, October 1, 2011, 1:00-6:00 p.m. As our guests, we invite you to enjoy seminars and workshops led by Redeemer faculty and alumni, 2 varsity soccer games, activities for children, Alumni Artisans' Marketplace, live music and a complimentary BBQ. Visit redeemer.ca/rediscover to see workshop options.

CLEAR -- Continuous Learning & Education at Redeemer

Redeemer University College's continuing education program features conferences, workshops and lectures. Some of these are single-day or evening events, while others take place over several weeks. For a full schedule, visit www.redeemer.ca/clear



39847007348

POLAROID034

COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED,
AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST