

**Subject:** Friday Feature: Opening Week 2020  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 at 9:33:50 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** McCormick, Adrienne  
**To:** Faculty-Staff  
**Attachments:** OpeningEvents2020 20200813.docx

Hello Everyone,

Next week faculty will return and we will be one week from the start of classes for fall semester. Normally this would be a busy week of on-campus activity welcoming new faculty, reuniting with colleagues, and meeting our new students. This year, many of these traditions will be different, but we are ready to begin this new adventure! I will use the Friday Feature to give a brief preview. Please also see attached the schedule of virtual events.

Early next week, Dr. Hynd will share a welcome message, and college and department meetings will occur virtually. On Friday morning, our New Faculty Mentoring Program will begin its first fully virtual platform, and Faculty Conference will meet via Blackboard Collaborate on Friday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m., despite the continuation of summer office hours.

On Monday, August 24 we will celebrate Convocation, which will be held virtually as well. We will post the convocation video on the Winthrop homepage and the Welcome Week site Monday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. While we are not able to gather as we want in the Coliseum with all of our new students, we still want to welcome each of them and other new members to our campus community. Please join in watching the Convocation and sharing in the welcome efforts for our new students and colleagues, on social media and through your own synchronous remote gatherings.

Classes will begin virtually on Tuesday morning, August 25. As we enter the final stretch, please hear me giving each and every one of you a robust round of applause for getting to this point! I know summer was exhausting and challenging beyond even what we knew we had in store. But I also know your training, expertise, and commitment to serving our students will see you through the transition back into action.

In closing, feel free to drop into [my office hour this morning, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., on Teams](#).

And check out this [inspirational essay by Cathy Davidson and Dianne Harris](#), on "Throwing Out the Conventional Pedagogical and Curricular Playbook." Cathy Davidson is one of my favorite thought leaders in higher ed. Her article with Dianne Harris does not disappoint in challenging us all to find opportunity in the most unexpected of places.

Have a great weekend!

Adrienne

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**Winthrop University**  
**Fall 2020 Opening Events Calendar**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>PHONE #</b>
August 18, Tuesday	9:00 – 11:00 am	College of Arts & Sciences Opening Meeting	2160
	9:00 – 10:30 am	College of Education Opening Meeting	2151
	9:00 am – noon	College of Business Administration Opening Meeting	2186
	9:45 am	International Student Orientation	2133
Wednesday, August 19		<a href="#">Fall Orientation for New Freshmen and Transfer Students</a>	2387
Thursday, August 20	10:00 am - noon	College of Visual & Performing Arts Opening Meeting	2323
August 21, Friday	9:00 – 10:00 am	New Faculty Orientation	2220
	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Faculty Conference	4666
August 24 - 28, Monday - Friday		Registration Continues via Wingspan	2194
August 24, Monday	morning	College Assemblies with new students	
	2:00 pm	Convocation	2220
August 25, Tuesday	8:00 am	Classes begin	