

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# NEXUS

*Your College Connection*

## IT ALL STARTS AT ORIENTATION

### New Student Orientation Gives Nassau Students a Head Start on College Life

**N**ew Student Orientation at NCC covers a lot of ground, literally and figuratively. Literally, one important part of orientation is familiarizing incoming students with Nassau's campus—all 48 buildings and 225 acres of it. Students participate in a walking tour of campus led by New Student Orientation leaders (about 50, who go through an extensive two-day training period ahead of time) who also are called upon during the year to give tours to prospective students and parents. During the tour, students are shown classroom buildings and other significant campus facilities.

Figuratively, New Student Orientation at Nassau is a "how to" guide about being a successful NCC student. Staff members from many walks of College life, including Career and Educational Counseling, Student Activities, Health Services and Public Safety, tell students about their services.

Parents of incoming students are invited to an "orientation" session with an NCC counselor and the College president in late August. They also receive a "Parents Guide" with helpful tips about the needs and changing lives of young adult college students.

New Student Orientation is organized by the Student Personnel Services Department's Office of Student Activities. "New Student Orientation is a wonderful way to begin your college career. All NCC students should take advantage of it," said Prof. Phyllis Kurland, Coordinator of Student Activities. "Friendships are developed, even among student leaders." Prof. Richard Conway of Student Activities agrees. "Orientation introduces students to the promise and possibilities of College. It also helps students become acquainted with the campus, especially with those resources that will be of importance to them in their first year and beyond," he remarked. Student Activities faculty estimate that tens of thousands of students have participated in orientation over the years.

Orientation takes place over the entire summer, in small groups of



New Student Orientation student leaders.

**"I remember my own experience before I came to the College. It was kind of scary, starting at a new school . . . Orientation makes the transition much better."**

**Luis Miguel Abreu, Student Leader**

Student orientation leaders who participate in New Student Orientation enjoy the experience and would definitely recommend it to other students. "I remember my own experience before I came to the College," said Luis Miguel Abreu, a second year student. "It was kind of scary, starting at a new

students each time. All incoming students receive a letter inviting them to one of these sessions. During orientation, they are given snacks and a student welcome bag. Students who take part in New Student Orientation meet their fellow classmates, smoothing their transition into College life. Many of these students ultimately become lifelong friends.

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