

Karen Donoghue:

My name is Karen Donoghue, and I serve as the Vice President for Student Life. It is a great privilege to welcome all of our new students to Fairfield University and our vibrant community. As an alumni myself, I remember my own orientation experience and the variety of emotions I was experiencing that day. And to be honest with you, I had it a lot easier. We were not, obviously, in the middle of a global pandemic, which brings on an additional layer of questions, anxieties, but also hope.

During our session today and those following, our goal is to provide you with a snapshot of what Fairfield is all about, introduce you briefly into this great community, and provide a space for you to ask questions and have them answered. As our president, Dr. Mark Nemec shared last week, there are some questions that we will not be able to answer yet, but I assure you there is a brilliant team working behind the scenes to ensure our community comes together this fall. Let me pass it over to Vinnie, our FUSA President for his welcome. Vinnie?

Vincent Gadioma:

Thank you Vice President Donoghue. Hello everyone. I'm Vincent Gadioma, the current student FUSA President. I'm honored to be here and I'm to welcome you, the official class of 2024, to our Stag family. Now first off, I wanted to thank you for joining us virtually this afternoon. After the past three months of being online, I'm sure we're all suffering from that Zoom fatigue everyone keeps talking about, but I promise you that this is one Zoom call you'll be glad you attended.

Now today you get to learn about what makes Fairfield special. And hopefully you get to see just how welcoming and inclusive the Fairfield community is. So I encourage you today to learn something new about this campus. Something you didn't know about this morning. Because I promise you at the end of this orientation, whether if you've learned only one or even 100 new things, you'll be asking for the summer to end so your Fairfield experience can begin.

I also just wanted to point out what my title, FUSA means. FUSA is the Fairfield University Student Association. We're involved in planning, organizing a lot of the student engagement that happens on campus. We run many of the traditional events that happen every year. We host elections for student government, and we oversee the more than 100 clubs that actively engage students both on and off of campus.

Now, I should note that as an undergraduate, you're already part of FUSA. So everything I just said, you can look forward to doing in the fall. But I also want you to know that FUSA is a student association run entirely by the friendly faces of fellow students that you'll see around campus. Our motto is even, "For the students, by the students," if that wasn't clear enough. So I'd love to start us off today by sharing with everyone this fun video to help you get to know the friendly faces of our students just a little better.

Video:

Congratulations on officially starting your journey as a Stag. We are so excited to finally welcome all our newest students from across the country and the world to our Fairfield family.

The class of 2024 represents 26 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, as well as Canada, Croatia, Finland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, the United Kingdom, Vietnam, and Japan.

Very soon, you will be able to add Fairfield, Connecticut to that list.

Orientation is a way to build community, have meaningful interactions, and learn more about Fairfield.

From the start, you'll find that Fairfield University is more than just a university. We're a community committed to fostering the mind, body, and spirit, through an active student body, an integrated curriculum, and a 500 year old Jesuit tradition.

Our strength comes from the unique background of our students.

Your class includes artists, athletes, musicians, and volunteers with diverse beliefs, ethnicities, and experiences.

You are all different, but your work ethic and your character have led you to Fairfield and made you Stags. And you should take great pride in that.

As a values based institution, Fairfield encourages students to explore their interests, passions, and purpose in and outside the classroom, through the course curriculum, clubs and organizations, athletics, campus ministry, service learning, and more.

This is how you grow and discover who you are meant to be, and to learn to understand the world around you.

At every step in your Fairfield journey, dedicated faculty, staff, and administrators will be there to support and guide you as you consider career opportunities that speak to your aspirations and beliefs.

We can't wait to see you in person. Until then, hope you visit [inaudible 00:04:58] on campus.

Home is where the Stags are.

Home is where the Stags are.

Go Stags. Go Stags. Yeah.

Go Stags.

Go Stags.

We can't wait to see you.

Go Stags, baby. See you soon.

Karen Donoghue:

Great. Thank you, Vinnie. As you were just introduced in that video, there are many student leaders that are eagerly waiting your arrival this fall. Many of these student leaders, your students are going to meet right now, or later today, when they're in their small group session today and tomorrow. And these student leaders are going to accompany them through their entire journey during their first semester within our community.

So for today's health and wellness panel, I am joined by some amazing colleagues, and again, my cohost Vinnie. Father Paul Rourke is the director of Campus Ministry. Dr. Susan Birge is our associate vice for Student Health and Wellness. Julia Duffy is our director of the Health Center. And Frank Ficko is our associate director of Public Safety. And I'm going to start off by asking Father Paul, Father Paul, how does the Fairfield University community integrate mind, body, and spirit in curricular and co-curricular life. Father Paul?

Father Paul Rourke:

Thank you, Vice President Donoghue here. And thank you to Vinnie. Both of you have been such great partners with Campus Ministry, and such great leaders, servant leaders in our community. And I just wanted to welcome all of you today. I really look forward to the chance to welcome you in person to

campus, and to all the we do in Campus Ministry. We really try to build community for people of all faith traditions, and of no tradition. And to make a welcoming home for all people in our university community.

Every university has a story. We might think that Fairfield's story started in 1942, but in fact, it started much earlier. Our started with a wounded man, a knight, who after being wounded in battle and convalescing decided to hand himself over to God after having led a life that was really motivated by ambition and vanity, and really a kind of arrogance in a lot of ways. And out of that decision to hand himself over to God came an extraordinary journey that led Inigo to Loyola, whom we now know as Saint Ignatius of Loyola, to the discovery that by paying attention to what stirring in our hearts, one can find one's deepest desire. And that that deepest desire is ultimately what God wants for each one of us.

The story of Jesuit education goes back to the story of this one man. But just as importantly, it goes back to the story of a group of college friends. If Saint Ignatius's story had remained a solitary spiritual quest, then we almost certainly would know nothing about him. We know about Ignatius because he went to the University of Paris, which at the time was probably the best university there was in Europe. And he was able, when he was there, to talk to his friends about life and God and their own experience in a way that was new and compelling.

These friends then together decided that the experience they had in their college studies was so powerful that they wanted to share it with the world. And so they decided to found what we now call the Society of Jesus or the Jesuits. And out of that group a 500 year tradition of education emerged. Within a generation of its founding in 1540, there were schools all over the world. So the history of the world can literally be changed by the friends you make at college and by the conversations you have.

When we speak of mind, body, spirit, what we mean is that for a human being to flourish, he or she has to care for each dimension of the human person. It's not enough to attend to the mind alone. We have to care for the body and the spirit. And at Fairfield, we don't just believe in preparing you for a career. We believe in forming the whole person. And a person can't be fully alive, fully whole, without caring for the body and the spirit as well. We won't try to force any religion on you. But anyone who wants to have the full benefit of a Fairfield education will examine the spiritual side of life and open up to an encounter with God, or at least with that mystery that surpasses the reach of our understanding.

Our education and has also not just for our students alone. We're committed to forming men and women for and with others. Ours is not an ivory tower education. It's an education for solidarity with those who are most in need. And it's an education for the common good. Caring for mind, body, and spirit, or [foreign language 00:10:10], to use the Latin expression that's often used, also means that as educators, we can't treat our students as numbers, or as receptacles for us to pour knowledge into. We have to treat each person as an individual with a sacred story. We hope that your time at Fairfield will be a rich chapter in your own sacred story. One that changes you and that changes the world.

Karen Donoghue:

Thank you, Father Paul. That was beautiful. What I really like to hear from you is your connection to how forming friends can really make a difference, especially when they leave Fairfield and go out into the world. And I love your story. Storytelling makes a difference within our community. So thank you Father Paul.

Father Paul Rourke:

Thank you.

Karen Donoghue:

I'd like to task Sue to kind of dive a little bit deeper into this concept of health and wellness. And talk about how within our community, we are dedicated to creating a commitment to health and wellness. Sue?

Susan Birge:

Yes. Thank you. Gosh, it's so good to be with you today. I must tell you, we sure did hope to see you in person, but please know how excited we are to welcome you to our campus in the fall. It's beautiful, it's vibrant, and it will be a wonderful welcome when you get here. In terms of the culture, every university has a culture. There's some similarities. But we really pride ourselves on a culture of health, wellness, the holistic approach involving mind, body, and spirit.

Let me give you some examples. At Fairfield University, about 16% of our students utilize counseling and psychological services. The national average is about 10 to 12%. Additionally, more, much higher than the national average, our students utilize the Student Health Center and Campus Ministry. Now one might think, what's going on at Fairfield U? Do students struggle more there? No, on the contrary. What goes on at Fairfield University is that we encourage our students to engage in help seeking behavior, to ask for help, if you need it.

You're not doing well academically, or having a problem in a class, talk to your professor, talk to a tutor, talk to academic support. Get help so that you can handle this situation and do better. What if you're not feeling well in terms of your health. Go to the Student Health Center. If you're injured, go to the Student Health Center. And if you're struggling with emotional difficulties, mental health issues, maybe anxiety, maybe stress, depression, relationship difficulties, substance abuse, utilize counseling and psychological services. And if you're feeling lost, maybe struggling with your faith or your beliefs, check in with the Campus Ministry or our Murphy Center.

So at Fairfield University, what we've done is significantly reduce the stigma for asking for help. Because asking for help means I care about myself, I need to be responsible for myself, and I want to improve the quality of my life. So as we reimagine our opening in the fall semester, we're going to work together to create many opportunities, far more than ever in this pandemic, to not only include a wonderful experience for you academically, educationally, but more importantly to us, to learn not only in the classroom, but as well to learn about yourselves, and to improve your quality of life. This fall, more than ever in a pandemic, it's so important to take care of your health, your wellbeing, not only yourself, but others, so that we can create the healthy community that we're proud of at Fairfield University.

Karen Donoghue:

That's wonderful. Sue, thank you so much. I love your notes about asking for help. As a mother of two myself, boy, do I ask for help a lot, especially from the wonderful colleagues on this Zoom call right now. I want to pass it over to Juliet. We've been receiving a lot of questions related to our response related to COVID-19. And how we're going to be handling it this fall. I've asked Julia to give some overview of how we are ensuring our community will remain safe. And then I anticipate throughout the summer, we'll have additional webinars for all of you on this call and your classmates, as we get closer to the fall move in process. So Julia.

Julia Duffy:

Thanks, Karen. And welcome to all of you. I'll be happy to see you all in the fall. My name is Julia Duffy. I'm the director of the Student Health Center, but I'm also a nurse practitioner, and I see students when they're ill in the unit. I do have a number of slides prepared. I'm hoping we can display them. But first let me tell you a little bit about the Student Health Center in general. We have a brand new unit that we'll be moving into in July. It's modern, it's beautiful, it's state of the art. I'm so pleased that we'll be able to offer care in that setting. We're staffed by registered nurses, nurse practitioner. We have a physician who's in our office two days a week. She's our medical director. We have care seven days a week and we're available to all full time undergraduates. There is no fee to have a clinical visit. So we're very accessible. Next slide, please.

Primarily we offer episodic illness visits, injury visits. We do have onsite laboratory testing. For example, quick strep testing, rapid influenza testing, urinalysis testing, these types of things you might find in a physician's office. We do have a prescription medication dispensary, which is a great convenience for our students. It's primarily medications that are off patent and not too expensive. We could also write prescriptions if that's preferred, and students can go to the pharmacy to use their health insurance card. We do have a women's clinic, two afternoons a week with Dr. Joanna Wynne. We offer certain immunizations, tuberculosis testing, we also have an allergy injection clinic for our students that are under the care of allergist for allergy desensitization. Next slide please.

I'm sure you had many questions about COVID-19 and the pandemic. So I want to go through a number of public health measures that we're putting in place to make sure everyone stays as safe as possible. Number one, we want students to have an awareness of what symptoms may indicate that it may be COVID-19 that's causing them to feel ill. The Connecticut Department of Public Health is most focused on fever, cough, shortness of breath, and new loss of taste or smell. Additionally, there's some other more general symptoms, fatigue, aches, headache, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, that may be in fact related to COVID-19. So we're hoping that students will pay attention to their health and they will seek care appropriately if they're not feeling well.

This may be the most important slide that you see this orientation session. This is about preventing disease transmission, and how we're going to be as sure as possible that students stay safe. Number one, we want students to be washing their hands frequently. This is 20 seconds with soap and water. Alternatively, students can use hand sanitizer. Students will find that it's widely available around campus. Facilities has put these dispensers strategically placed across the university campus. They're very easy to find and use. We want to make sure students aren't touching their eyes or their face with unwashed hands.

As far as respiratory hygiene. This is the idea that we want students to cough into their elbow. If they use tissues to be extremely careful with how they dispose of them. They wash their hands after they use tissues. These types of factors. All students must wear cloth face coverings while they're out in public on campus. There are several exceptions to this. When a student is in their private dorm room, they do not have to wear their face covering. If they're exercising, and they're able to stay 12 feet away from others, they don't have to wear their face covering, or if they have a medical exemption to wearing a face covering.

But other than that, this is very important. We know that asymptomatic and presymptomatic transmission of the virus is a problem. So by wearing the cloth face coverings, you're keeping other safe from you, if you're incubating or asymptotically infected/ and there may be some protection to you also with wearing your face covering consistently.

Social distancing is extremely important. This is the idea that students must stay at least six feet away from others whenever possible. There's many things on campus that are put in place to remind us. It's something to get used to. But once you do, it's not too hard to do. We have floor markers to mark

out what is six feet look like. We have chairs set up in their classrooms that are six feet apart. So there isn't any question about where they should sit. It's all marked out in a very easy to discern way.

Additionally, cleaning and disinfection is extremely important. Our facilities department has stepped up their protocols to have enhanced disinfecting protocols across campus. And students also will need to participate. For example, they'll need to clean off their desks, or common areas such as lab areas. There'll be a wipes that will be provided. They're disinfecting wipes, and easy to use for students.

Presently, there is a directive from the state of Connecticut to test all students upon arrival with a viral diagnostic test for COVID-19. And then again, seven to 14 days after the initial test. There is some thinking that this may be modified, but we are preparing for this because it is the directive that we understand currently. So there'll be more information forthcoming as we get closer to the fall. More details to come on that.

I want you to know that diagnostic testing will be available at the Student Health Center for students that are ill or exposed. We can help with that. We intend to test liberally, because as you've seen, the symptoms are relatively nonspecific. We're hoping to have many negative tests, but we will be very vigilant. We need to identify any potential cases before they become a cluster, any cluster before it becomes an outbreak. So we're very focused on testing at the Student Health Center. Additionally, students will be required to monitor their health. And we'll have certain apps that will help to ask about symptoms and exposures, travel. And that'll be forthcoming too when we select the app that that will be used on campus. Okay.

So if a student becomes ill with COVID-19, they must be isolated until they're cleared by a healthcare provider to go back to community. Isolation may be something that will be happening at home, if possible, if the home environment is deemed to be an acceptable environment. Sometimes it's not because there may be a high risk individual at home. So we have set up a number of isolation rooms on campus, where students can be supported as they recover. They will have health monitoring, and they will have the support of Dining Services and Res Life and Public Safety.

So students that become ill with COVID-19 will not be able to just stay in their dorm rooms. They will have to go to a different environment. Anyone that becomes ill will be contacted by a contact tracer. There'll be an interview to determine who that ill individual has been in close contact with while they were infectious. Close contact is defined as being within six feet for about 10 to 15 minutes. So this goes back to this social distancing directive that I spoke of earlier. Students that are not careful about the six foot distancing are much more likely to be exposed, and in turn, have to quarantine themselves if there are any cases of illness on campus. Okay. So, all right. I hit that one. So go to the next one, please. Okay.

So the other consideration is some of our students have medical conditions which place them at higher risk for severe COVID-19 disease. These are our students with diabetes, with severe asthma, with moderately severe asthma, with heart conditions. Students that are immunocompromised for a variety of reasons, certain medications perhaps that they're on there. Every case is very different and unique. So what I would advise you to do, if you do have a medical condition that's chronic or ongoing, to go to this specialist or the physician that knows you and knows your history and ask them, "Is it prudent for me to go to a residential college setting in a pandemic situation?" Perhaps certain students will need to take online classes as an accommodation.

Later in July, there'll be a communication regarding this concept and directives for how students may ask for certain accommodations if they have certain medical conditions. Certainly we want students to follow the CDC guidance on seasonal influenza vaccination. We want to make sure, especially in a pandemic situation, that we have fewer coughs and sneezes. And although we don't have a COVID-19

vaccine, the symptoms can be similar. And it would be really advantageous to be vaccinated for seasonal influenza to try to not have so many cases on campus of people coughing and sneezing.

We will have influenza of vaccine clinics in September and October. We partner with the visiting nurses. They can bill certain insurance plans directly. There'll be a lot of communication about when they're available. Students will need to make an appointment because of the social distancing concern, as we don't want students queuing up in a long line to get vaccinated. It'll be by appointment.

Students should definitely bring a digital thermometer to campus this fall. It's very helpful for my staff if students can tell us when they come in and they're not feeling well exactly what their temperature has been. Students should also have their own health insurance card. Although there is no fee for visits to the Student Health Center, if we order, for example, a chest x-ray, or we need students to go to the pharmacy for a specific medication, they will need to present their health insurance card in those situations.

One thing I would like to highlight that is on your first year checklist is the health insurance waiver. All students are required to have health insurance. The university has a sponsored plan, and in order to make sure everyone is covered, what they do is they actually enroll the students in the sponsored health insurance plan and bill this student. So when you get your bill in July, you will see that there's a charge for \$2,464. However, if you have comparable insurance, for example, through your parents or a family plan, if you prove and you enter in an online waiver that you have acceptable insurance, then that fee could be credited to your bill, and there will be no charge. And you will have waived out of the university sponsored plan.

So the deadline to do that is August 6th. The enrollment date for the plan is August 15th. So it's very important that you don't miss that August 6th deadline. If you do not want the health insurance, you do this online waiver. In order to access the waiver, you should go on the Student Health Center sub page of the university website. And you'll click on health insurance, and the waiver will be explained directly there.

And my final comment is we have to be sure that all immunizations that are mandatory, as per the state of Connecticut, are documented for incoming students. So in addition to sending in your immunization print out, for example, we also need you to send in your health history. There's a specific form which is downloadable from the Student Health Center webpage. It's a six page form. It has your emergency contact information if you happen to be acutely ill, it has your health history. And there's also on page four, the tuberculosis screening questions, which you must fill out. And if they're all negative, you don't need a tuberculosis test. If you have a risk factor, then you do need a tuberculosis test. So please, if you haven't sent them in already, we have, on our webpage, a portal where you can upload those forms. And we'll be watching for them and reviewing them as they come in.

Karen Donoghue:

Thank you, Julia. As you can see, personal health is really going to matter as we move into contributing to community health. So I really appreciate that, Julia. We want everyone to recognize, especially our students on the call, that Fairfield University is going to look a little bit different. As all colleges in the United States will look this fall. But please don't be too worried. There are going to be many opportunities for you to still safely socialize with your peers, meet new people, and socialize outside of the class [inaudible 00:28:287] appropriately within the classroom.

Prior to your arrival this fall, there will be an engagement tool, sort of like your first year checklist, specifically related to COVID-19 that all students will have to take. And there'll be interactive sessions for you to engage in. So you can understand sort of these new social guidelines that you're

entering into this fall. And more importantly, have the opportunity to engage with student leaders such as Vinnie that you've already met on this call, is how do you interact within the space, especially when it comes to clubs and an organizations to make sure that you have a smooth and successful vibrant community this fall? I do want to ask Frank Ficko on our Zoom call today to talk a little bit more about safety, because that is extremely important as you enter into our community. Frank?

Frank Ficko:

Sure. Good afternoon, everyone. On behalf of everyone here at Public Safety, our prayers and best wishes that you and your families are all healthy and doing well as we continue to navigate through this Twilight Zone existence, as I call it, caused by the pandemic. For our first year students, I wish you were here to see campus this time of year, especially if you've never seen campus during the early summer. I make it a point to take a walk around campus every day. And the campus, in a word, looks stunning. Everything is in full bloom. And quite honestly, it has the look that we can open tomorrow if we had to. I mean, everything just seems to be in the ready position. I mean the only thing missing is you guys. But that will change, and that'll change quickly in a couple of months when you bring your life, your energy, and your excitement back onto campus.

To the parents who are in the audience, we share something in common. I too have a college age student who attends school outside of the Boston area, about a three hour drive from my home. We also found out maybe a week or two ago what their plans were for the upcoming semester. And quite honestly, it's pretty much identical to Fairfield's plan, and that of many other colleges and universities throughout the country. And the reason I share that with you is I understand the apprehension and anxiety that many of you are feeling, especially in light of today's society and the many challenges that we face. I mean, I get it.

And if this is your first child that you're sending off to school, I do have bad news for you. It's not going to get any better as they progress through the next four years. That apprehension, that anxiety, will always be there. But hopefully, the future will hold fewer challenges than we face today. You have my word that we will do everything we can to ensure your child's transition to college life goes as safely and as smoothly as humanly possible.

Well, as the words public safety imply, our department is charged with providing a community conducive to learning, a community where people feel safe, a community where people feel at home. Well, how is this accomplished? It's accomplished through a number of ways. I mean, technology and the advances in technology have been incredible in the past 10 years, which has really made our job a lot easier from CCTV cameras to smart phones with sophisticated recording devices, to security apps with GPS tracking capabilities. We utilize all all of them.

But we also use an old fashioned approach of maintaining a very high visibility throughout campus. To the point, and this is directed to our first year students, a day should not go by where you don't see a public safety officer somewhere out on campus at some point during the course of your day. Whether he or she is bike patrol, or foot patrol, or in a patrol car, you should see an officer. And it's kind of a profound statement, but I'm okay putting it out there because I'm confident you'll find it to be true.

Look, at the end of the day, the safety and security of the community doesn't just fall on one department. Public safety is everyone's responsibility. When we learn of an incident, we learned of it because it was brought to our attention by a member of the community, namely you, or a faculty member, or the groundskeeper, or the food service worker. You all serve as extra eyes and ears for us. At Fairfield, we are our brother's and sister's keepers. We watch out for one another and we have each other's backs. And you know that slogan, "If you see something, say something." That's been around for about 15 years now, but it still applies today.



If you see anything or hear anything that you deem as unsafe, or just doesn't feel right to you, call us. I'd rather get a call and find out that our services were not needed than to learn later that perhaps something could have been prevented if someone just took the time to report it. Our office is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. There are no automated attendants when you call our office. There's no message forwarding. You get a live human being when you call the public safety number.

So I have a favor to ask all of you once you arrive on campus. And because of your inability to visit campus during the summer, one of the first things I want you to do after you're settled, is to spend the first few days learning campus like you know your own home. All the buildings, every blade of grass, if you will. Know where Public Safety is located. No where the Health and Wellness Center are located, the Campus Ministry offices. We want you to know the resources that are available to you, and the best way to do that is know how to get to them and how to access them.

You need to understand that when you guys arrive in the fall, Fairfield becomes your campus. You are the reason Fairfield was founded, you're the reason the school exists. And we want you to make Fairfield your home away from home. So in closing, if you ever have any questions, problems, issues, and you don't know where to go or what to do, I want you to feel comfortable in calling us. Because even if we can't help you directly, we could at least point you in the right direction. So until we meet again, stay well, and God bless. Karen?

Karen Donoghue:

Thank you, Frank. And he truly means it. If you ever have a question and don't know where to turn, please call Public Safety. Even ask for Frank Ficko. He will gladly speak to every single student and parent on this call, as he's smiling at me right now and all of you. So I want to pass it over to Vinnie. And I have a specific question for Vinnie. And Frank, how you ended, you want the students to make this their home away from home. I'm sure Vinnie can attest to how Fairfield really truly has become his home while he's here. And I'm sure his parents laugh at him when he tells his parents that he's going home when he really means he's coming back to Fairfield. So Vinnie, let me pass it over to. Can you can speak to the role that FUSA plays in the community, but also how you are responsible with your peers to create a very diverse and welcoming community for our students when they arrive here this fall?

Vincent Gadioma:

Thank you. And it's also my hope that you get to know where the FUSA office is by the time you get onto campus. But I should say that FUSA offers a tremendous array of ways for students to connect with others and build a welcoming community when they arrive. In addition to what I said before, I work closely with our programming team and the student diversity and inclusion team, to host many recreational and engaging events throughout the year.

We also planned these kind of trips to Broadway and sports stadiums, if any of you are Yankee fans. And we also run annual campus wide events like pep rallies and concerts that should bring students from all classes together and serve as a break from the classes to promote the co-curricular benefits of being a residential campus in the vibrant community at Fairfield. Now FUSA, also supports the growth of all the clubs on campus, where students can explore their interests the way they wanted to, keep a lifelong hobby that reminds them a little bit of home, or learn about the various cultures of the world through a variety of clubs representing the many nationalities on campus.

We start each semester off with the highly attended Clubs and Activities Fair where students can meet the faces of all the clubs on campus, and broaden their horizons by putting their names down

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for one, two, 10, or even 30 clubs if you want to. I did that, and I'm actually a tenor in the Fairfield University Glee Club now. Who would have guessed? So I encourage you this fall to not let anything, even COVID, stop you from engaging in all of the interesting things around campus, because there's so much to do when you get here.