

September 10, 2007

## **The Transfer Link**

Welcome to Saint Mary's College of California and to the inaugural version of The Transfer Link, an on-line newsletter for transfer students. The Transfer Link exists to provide new transfer students with important information in hopes to simplify the transition of enrolling at Saint Mary's, and to better connect you to this magnificent academic community.

### **Library Tours for Transfer Students**

Learn how to find information in the Saint Mary's College Library!

Here are some ways you can learn about the library resources and services available to you. One way is to come to the Reference Desk and talk to a librarian. Located just inside the Library, the desk is staffed from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 3:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sunday. You can also phone the librarian at 925-631-4624, e-mail a question from the web form at <http://library.stmarys-ca.edu/research/asklib.php>, and even instant message a librarian with information at <http://library.stmarys-ca.edu/reference/imlib.php> during the hours listed above.

Another way to find out about the Library is to use the Library website at <http://library.stmarys-ca.edu/>. Resources and services are listed on the home page, with links to more descriptive information about specific resources and services. You can even take an online tutorial at your own pace, available at <http://library.stmarys-ca.edu/research/comp/tutorial.php>, to learn about using the SMC Library.

Welcome to Saint Mary's College, we hope to see you soon, from the Library staff!

### **Academic Progress**

Saint Mary's College recognizes the need to help transfer students identify their academic challenges as quickly as possible, especially when those challenges may interface with plans for graduation. A low GPA at Saint Mary's can mean a delay in meeting graduation requirements; therefore, the College gives special consideration to a transfer student's first two semesters at Saint Mary's. "For the purpose of establishing satisfactory academic progress, only courses taken at Saint Mary's College will be considered during a transfer student's first two semesters in residence" (p. 37, 2007-08 Catalog of Courses). This means that at the end of the fall semester, you will be expected to have a "Saint Mary's courses only" GPA of 2.0 or better, or you will be placed on academic probation for the spring; the same would be true for the end of the spring semester. Feel free to contact Frank Murray, the Dean for Academic Development ([fmurray@stmarys-ca.edu](mailto:fmurray@stmarys-ca.edu)) if you have any questions.

### **Student ID Pictures**

If you do not have a student identification card you need to come to the Business Office in Filippi Hall to get your picture taken and receive your student ID.

### **Final Transcripts**

You must have final official transcripts on file from your previous institution(s). If you have not already ordered official transcripts please contact the college(s) you last attended and have one sent to the Registrar's Office at Saint Mary's College PO Box 4748 Moraga, CA 94575. Your official academic standing and evaluation will not be updated on GaelXpress and you will not be able to register for January Term 2008 if official transcripts have not been received.

### **SMC PO Boxes**

The US Postal Service has a post office station on the Saint Mary's College campus. The campus Post Office is located in Cassin Student Union between the bookstore and Syufy Hall for Performing Arts. Undergraduate resident students will receive an on-campus Post Office box number and key. The cost is \$1.00 paid to the Post Office. You may pick up a flyer, which outlines information about how to acquire and maintain your campus PO box in the Residence Life Office located on the first floor of Mitty Hall.

### **January Term Catalogs**

January Term 2008 Catalogs are here! If you are a commuter student, please come by the Registrar's Office to pick up your January Term Catalog. If you are a resident student on campus, you may pick up your January Term Catalog from your Resident Advisor. Registration week for January Term travel courses is September 24 through September 27. Registration for all other January Term courses is October 15 through October 18.

### **Study Abroad**

The Center for International Programs welcomes transfer student participation in study abroad opportunities while attending Saint Mary's College. Recent research on California Community College transfer performance shows that transfer students typically are academically well focused and high achievers while studying abroad.

What are the next steps?

Attend a meeting! Learn about study abroad resources and advising by attending a study abroad meeting at the Center for International Programs located on the first floor of De La Salle Hall. See [www.stmarys-ca.edu/studyabroad](http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/studyabroad) or call 925-631-4352 for the latest schedule. Attend the Study Abroad Fair on September 26 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Ferroggiaro Quad where you can talk to study abroad alumni and representatives from SMC and Non-SMC study abroad programs.

### **E-mail Accounts and GaelXpress**

If you have not already done so, please activate your Saint Mary's College e-mail and GaelXpress accounts. The official method of communication at the College is through e-mail so be sure to check your SMC e-mail frequently. If you have questions or need assistance with activating your accounts please contact CaTS(Computer and Technology Services) at 925-631-4266.

### **Important Reminders and Dates**

If you do not have a current Saint Mary's College 2007-08 Catalog please come by the Registrar's Office and pick one up.

September 24-27 – January Term travel course registration

October 8-11 – Mid-term exam period

October 12 – Mid-term Holiday

October 15-18 – January Term (on campus) course registration

October 29 – Academic Advising period begins

November 12-15 – Pre-registration for the Spring 2008 term

Thank you for taking the time to read the Transfer Link, and once again, welcome to Saint Mary's College. If I can be of assistance to any of you please do not hesitate to contact me, Craig Means, or any member of the Registrar's Office. Go Gaels!