



WPI

NEW FACULTY ORIENTATION

New Faculty Orientation is a week-long program providing new faculty with information about WPI, resources for teaching, resources for research, logistical information on benefits and IT, and helpful advice from students and colleagues. The typical schedule is provided below, with five half-days of programming. Exact days and times are announced in June each year.

Day 1

Human Resources/Benefits Orientation for New Faculty

This session will help faculty with federal and state tax forms, direct deposit, parking passes, and WPI ID forms. Information will also be presented about full-time faculty benefits including health insurance plan options, life insurance, the retirement plan, and employee assistance program.

Information Technology Orientation

IT staff orient faculty to core IT services and assist with establishing strong passwords. Faculty can test access to accounts and core services.

Campus Tour

An informal walking tour to highlight where faculty most commonly go for assistance and places to eat.

Day 2

Opening Remarks and New Faculty Self-Introductions

Enjoy a welcome session with the WPI President, Academic Deans, and New Faculty.

Goals of NFO

An overview of the New Faculty Orientation Program.

Wellness and Self-Care

A session about on-campus and off-campus opportunities for well-being.

The WPI Plan and Educational Philosophy

An overview of WPI's history and "The Plan", which forms the basis for our undergraduate education.

Graduate Education and the PhD Plan

Information about our graduate programs, including student development, research initiatives, and corporate engagement.

WPI Student Experiences (Student Panel)

Engage with our students to hear their experiences and ask questions.

Reception

Get to know your colleagues, both new and "seasoned", while enjoying some food and beverages.

Day 3

Planning Courses at WPI (Workshop)

What should faculty consider when planning a 7-week course? What are the expectations of WPI undergraduate and graduate students? Join us for an engaging workshop led by faculty, instructional designers, and students.

Academic Honesty Policy

How can faculty be proactive in promoting academic honesty, and what are the first steps to follow if students violate the policy? This session will be led by staff from the Dean of Students Office.

Student Support Services

What student-related problems do faculty face and who can help? Where can faculty refer students who are struggling? What do faculty need to know about students with disabilities? Information and resources will be provided by staff from offices specializing in accessibility, counseling, advising, and writing.

Day 4

Academic Support Services for Teaching and Research

What classroom technology is available and how can it be used to teach more effectively? How can you enhance your research using WPI's high performance computing infrastructure? What are the collaboration tools you can use in your courses or with your research partners? Staff from the Academic Technology Center and Academic and Research Computing will provide a wealth of information.

Launching Your Research Program at WPI – Research Resources

Come meet the Vice Provost for Research and staff from offices that will support you in your search for research funding opportunities and proposal development. You'll hear from the Office of Sponsored Programs, the Research Solutions Institute, Sponsored Program Accounting, and more.

Building a Research Program – Faculty Experiences (Lunch)

Meet early career faculty colleagues from different disciplines, who will share their experiences with building a research program at WPI and securing funding. They will also answer any questions you may have.

Day 5

Welcome from Faculty Governance

WPI faculty are deeply involved in the “workings” of the university. Hear about our governance system from the Secretary of the Faculty.

Annual Reviews and Tenure and Promotion Evaluation

These concurrent sessions will provide information on how faculty are reviewed at WPI, with plenty of time for questions. Sessions will be led by faculty representatives from the Committee on Tenure and Academic Freedom (CTAF) and the Committee on Appointments and Promotions (COAP).

Teaching, Scholarship, Service, and Life: Advice from Colleagues (Faculty Panel)

Join us for an engaging discussion of life at WPI. Hear some advice from faculty, and get all of your burning questions answered.

Networking Lunch with Early Career Faculty and Closing

We'll end New Faculty Orientation with casual conversations over lunch.

Photographer Available for Professional Photos