Master Plan Changes

VFTH

7/26/18

Fireworks, a hypnotist, a WKU Traditions night. You name it and it’s been added to Master Plan 2018, the freshman orientation program designed to get students ready for the rigors of college life on the hill.

Amy Bingham highlights the biggest changes to Master Plan in this week’s View from the Hill.

After 25 years, Master Plan organizers felt it was time to shake things up a bit, starting with the freshman move-in schedule and even shifting convocation to a closing rather than opening ceremony. All designed to give incoming students a “Master Plan” for success.

“We wanted to think about ways we could shake up the program for a new generation of Hilltoppers.”

Organizers began soliciting feedback last fall on ways they could improve the orientation program including changing the move in days.

“By shifting that program two days later we are shortening that gap and we’re really building on the momentum and excitement of master plan week to propel students into their first week of classes on the hill.”

“A lot of master plan is showing them what it means to be a student of WKU so it’s just instilling that spirit in them that we have.”

Senior Shelby Cable is one of fifty WKU students selected to serve as Master Plan Mentors, sharing advice and encouragement.

“It may be out of your comfort zone to go to socials but that’s exactly what you should do. People on your hall are not going to get to know you if you don’t put yourself out there.”

There will be plenty of opportunities.

“Everything from outdoor movies to ghost story tours, we’re actually going to have a glow in the dark party which is going to be a lot of fun.”

The traditional class photo on the football field will still be part of master plan, followed this year by activities led by Playfair.

“It’s like ice breakers and team builders on steroids.”

Master Plan is not just fun and games, Jensen says the educational components have been streamlined to cut out any repetition.

She says the program is a proven link in the chain of retention at WKU.

“Students that participate in master plan form a strong connection. They integrate into campus community early, they find places to connect, places to belong.”

Other favorites that are still part of Master Plan include the WK and U festival for clubs and organizations, Meijer Mania and Big Red’s Blitz.

Any groups interested in assisting with Move in on August 20th and 21st can log onto wku dot edu slash masterplan slash get involved.

The fall semester begins August 27th.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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