May 2017

Dear New International Student,

Welcome to Bryn Mawr College! We know that you must be very excited as you prepare to arrive on campus. As part of your preparation, we would like to provide you with preliminary information regarding the International Student Orientation (ISO) which begins on Monday, August 28, 2017. ISO is a mandatory program for all incoming international students including: first-year, graduate, transfer, and exchange students. ISO is intended to help students learn about and understand important immigration regulations and procedures required of F-1 and J-1 visa status students and confirm their arrival for required government reporting.

The program is also designed to give you time to recover from jet lag, to meet and socialize with other international students, to become familiar with the local community and to give insight into adjusting to life in the United States. Many international students say that ISO proved valuable as they made their transition to Bryn Mawr College.

**ARRIVAL AT US CUSTOMS & IMMIGRATION:** Be sure to carry with you on your carry-on luggage (1) your passport; (2) the original I-20 or DS 2019 including I-901 receipt, (3) original financial documentation as evidence of financial resources. Do not leave these documents with your family nor pack them into the luggage you will check-in on the plane. You must present these original documents to the US Customs official at the port of entry for immigration processing and admission to the U.S.

**REGISTRATION & ARRIVAL AT ISO:** ISO is mandatory for all incoming international students and registration is required. Student assistants will be available at the airport to guide you back to campus on Monday, August 28. Additional ISO Assistants will greet you as you arrive on campus and help you move into your permanent room.

Information regarding ISO registration and airport guides will be posted on the website at: [http://www.brynmawr.edu/pensby/international/students/new_students/index.html](http://www.brynmawr.edu/pensby/international/students/new_students/index.html) later in the summer.
ACCOMMODATIONS: The Residential Life Office will send you information about your room assignment. Please be advised that you will not be able to move into or place your belongings in your assigned room before Monday, August 28, 2017. Students that access their dorm room prior to ISO Move-In Day, on August 28 are subject to being fined.

If your travel schedule requires you to arrive in Philadelphia prior to, Monday, August 28, 2017, we suggest you reserve a room at the Radnor Hotel or a hotel close to Philadelphia International Airport.

For a list of hotels near PHL Airport: you may visit: http://www.phl.org/Pages/VisitPhilly/hotelsNearPHL.aspx

If you stay near the airport, International Student Orientation assistants will be available to guide you to campus on Monday, August 28 for the start of ISO. You may request this assistance on the ISO Registration form.

Radnor Hotel is the closest hotel to campus. If you make reservations at the Radnor Hotel, be sure to inform the hotel that you are a Bryn Mawr student. This is the closest hotel to campus and may be reached by taking Rosemont Taxi, 610-525-1777 or Maxwell Taxi, 610-896-5100 from Philadelphia airport.

If you have any questions, please contact the Pensby Center for Community Development at intl@brynmawr.edu.

We look forward to meeting you in August!

Sincerely,

Patricia Lausch, Director
International Student and Scholar Services and Advising
Principal Designated School Official