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STUDENT LIFE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Student Life

As a rule, academic institutions of quality seek to offer a wide range of services that assist students in making their experience positive. Trinity Western is no exception to the rule. Good customer service is important.

However, Trinity Western University goes beyond simply providing good customer service. Trinity Western engages students where they live. At Trinity Western, we believe the provision of student programs and services creates windows of opportunity to involve students in educationally enriching experiences. These learning-focused opportunities are integral to their development as “godly Christian leaders: positive, goal oriented university graduates with thoroughly Christian minds, growing disciples of Jesus Christ who glorify God through fulfilling the Great Commission, serving God and people in the various marketplaces of the world” (TWU Mission Statement).

Student Life Division

Trinity Western University is divided into major divisions. Student Life is responsible to assist in creating a learning, life-changing environment.

Student Life provides a variety of student services and programs. In part, Student Life’s educational mandate is to challenge and assist students in exploring and developing all God has created them to be. By intention, Student Life’s classroom is the day-to-day life experiences of the student.

The Student Life staff are committed to this focus. Their vision for student experience is evident in their mission statement.

Mission

In support of TWU’s mission, Student Life seeks to “develop unmistakable disciples of Jesus Christ, students with integrity, who are prepared to influence their world as servant leaders, able to model healthy relationships and lifestyle, ready to demonstrate commitment to the Scriptures, and eager to participate in lifelong learning.”

Beliefs

Student Life staff recognize and believe:

- In the mission of Student Life. This means that the staff place value in this mission and are dedicated to its accomplishment.
- That pursuing an education involves more than getting a degree. It includes developing character, personal discipline, and leadership skills. It means learning how to maintain healthy relationships and work as a team member. It involves identifying a life calling and preparing for it. Student Life helps students receive an education in this broader sense.

- That the educational process involves acquiring information, having meaningful experiences, and taking the opportunity to reflect on the significance of both. Student Life creates opportunities for students to learn through experience and reflection.
- In the power of relationships to transform lives. “As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another” (Proverbs 27:17). Student Life encourages students to develop personal relationships with other students, staff, and faculty for it is through these relationships their lives will be changed forever, for the better. The Student Life staff are people who, along with all of the other University faculty and staff, welcome such relationships.

Process

For Student Life, having a mission and knowing what it believes are important, but without an understanding of the process involved, these noble aspirations remain on paper and unrealized in the lives of students. In “developing godly Christian leaders” who will be “unmistakable disciples of Jesus Christ,” the Student Life staff have chosen a process with five elements.

Student Life staff seek to expose every student to:

- **Life Opportunities.** Involvement in Student Life programs will develop invaluable skills for the work place and community. Students are challenged to be godly leaders with thoughtful Christian perspectives on what it means to lead through serving others.
- **Life Examples.** Students encounter genuine role models of the Christian faith in TWU staff, faculty, and guest speakers—people who understand and demonstrate God’s grace.
- **Life Emotions.** Students are free to explore their emotions, faith, and hopes, sharing who they are with others whether it be in small groups, in the classroom, or just one on one.
- **Life Messages.** Interaction with faculty, chapel speakers, and staff provides students with a better understanding of who God is, what it means to be a disciple, what it means to be a leader, and what it means to have a sense of one’s life calling.
- **Life Solutions.** Students are encouraged to approach life situations with a solution-focused orientation. They are challenged to understand problems from the perspective of solutions rather than simply analyzing the factors that led to the situation.

To accomplish its mission, Student Life employs this five-fold process through several educational functions.

Educational Functions of Student Life

Student Life actively engages in:

- **Discipleship development**—pursuit of godly character
- **Leadership development**—making a difference in your world through service
- **Career development**—life path preparation

- **Living in community**—“being” and “doing” with others
- **Personal wellness**—sound body, sound mind
- **Equity of access**—promoting access for all
- **Research and evaluation**—assessing and improving student experience
- **Transition and retention**—adjusting to and succeeding at TWU

STUDENT LIFE DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

The services of the Student Life division address a wide range of needs. Some services focus on the provision of information, others target educational opportunities, while still others focus on remedial assistance to those who desire to grow or are facing personal challenges. Frequently, a Student Life department will offer services that cover all of these areas. For example, The Centre for Life Calling and Career Development provides:

- Information (Student work opportunities)
- Education (Resume writing workshops)
- Remedial (Career exploration)

Inquiries about Student Life departments and services may be made directly to the related office or to the Office of the Vice-President for Student Life.

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday

Reimer Student Centre

Tel: 604.513.2025

Fax: 604.513.2013

E-mail: studentlife@twu.ca

Web site: www.twu.ca/life

The Centre for Life Calling and Career Development

Formerly The Career Centre

Mary Ellen Kuehl, Assoc. Director and

Dr. Mira Kim, Assoc. Director

“How does my education complement who God has made me to be?” This is just one of the many existential questions students ask themselves during their university career. Helping students and alumni find the answer to that question and discover their life calling is the reason The Centre for Life Calling and Career Development exists.

Students come to TWU seeking to understand their calling and purpose in life. They typically seek to answer three questions: “What should I do with my life?”, “What is my purpose in life?”, and “Where am I heading?” These questions eventually lead to the fundamental question: “Who am I?”

For Trinity Western students who have chosen a Christian environment for their post-secondary education, these kinds of existential questions are crucial in exploring their calling and reason for life.

Life Calling consists of three fundamental questions:

1. Who am I? (**Identity**)
2. Where am I going? (**Direction**)
3. Why am I going there? (**Purpose**)

Life is a journey. On this journey, each of us has a calling. The Centre for Life Calling and Career Development is available to participate in this journey by assisting students in finding their life calling.

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. Monday

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Tuesday – Friday

Reimer Student Centre

Tel. 604.513.2017

Fax: 604.513.2061

E-mail: career@twu.ca

Web site: www.twu.ca/career

TWU Wellness Centre

Kurt Lundberg, Executive Director

In keeping with one of its core educational functions, the Student Life division has combined a number of services to form an integrated department called the TWU Wellness Centre. Wellness is a proactive, positive approach to life and health that seeks to maximize one’s God-given potential. It involves the “whole” person being cared for in a “whole” manner. At the TWU Wellness Centre, students can receive assistance for concerns in the emotional, physical, social, intellectual, and spiritual dimensions of their experience.

Counselling Services

Students at university may encounter a variety of challenges. Personal issues, obstacles to learning, and past experiences may hinder academic success and individual growth. Students may face times of need for intervention by a counsellor. Trinity Western recognizes this need and maintains a counselling centre where any student can seek assistance from a qualified counsellor.

The Counselling Centre is committed to providing services that can aid all students in their personal growth and development. For those interested, individual, couple, and pre-marital counselling are available for a nominal fee per appointment. An initial inquiry may be made without charge.

Students are also given opportunity to participate in a variety of small groups that seek to foster personal growth. This growth is encouraged through self-exploration, openness about life issues and experiences, giving and receiving feedback, and setting and working towards personal goals and healing.

Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday

Douglas Centre

Tel: 604.513.2100

Fax: 604.513.2041

E-mail: lundberg@twu.ca

Web site: www.twu.ca/wellness

Equity of Access Office

Dave Stinson, Director

TWU offers a broad range of educational programs inside and outside the classroom. Students are encouraged to make use of these programs and actively participate in the life of the campus for their personal development.

The Equity of Access Office promotes equitable access to educational programs for students. In particular, the Equity of Access Office is concerned with equitable access for:

- commuter students
- visible minorities
- students with disabilities
- students at risk academically

Should a student encounter a barrier to participation, the Equity of Access Office will help the student address these difficulties using a self-advocacy model.

Students with a Disability

Students with a disability who need assistance are encouraged to contact the Equity of Access Office upon admission to TWU to discuss their specific needs. All disabilities must be recently documented by an appropriately certified professional and include the educational impact of the disability along with recommended accommodations.

The Equity of Access Office can also assist Canadian students with a disability to explore access to the Canada Study Grant program.

Procedure to Provide Equitable Access for Students with a Disability

Step 1 – Information gathering

Students with a disability should contact the Equity of Access Office as soon as they are admitted to TWU. The Director of the Equity of Access Office will consult with each student and verify his or her disability using documentation provided by the student. All documentation must be current, complete, and signed by an appropriately certified professional and include recommended accommodations.

Step 2 – Requesting accommodations

Once a disability is verified, students suggest accommodations that would allow for their equitable access to the living-learning environment and which are in keeping with the limitations of their disability. After consultation with the student, the Director of the Equity of Access Office will provide a letter to the student verifying that he or she has a documented disability. The letter will identify and recommend accommodations that would assist the student in accessing the campus living-learning environment. The Equity of Access Office will provide students with a hard copy of the letter of documentation for their information. At the beginning of each semester, the Equity of Access Office will send a copy of the letter via email to each of the student's professors. When changes occur in student schedules, it is the responsibility of the student to provide a copy of the letter from the Equity of Access Office to the professor(s).

Step 3 – Agreement between parties

Within the first two weeks of the semester, students must meet with their professors to agree on accommodations appropriate to each class. This agreement should be done in writing and professors should email a copy of the contract to the Equity of Access Office and to the Disability Liaison person for documentation purposes. In addition, students who need academic accommodations should introduce themselves to the Disability Liaison person who will assist faculty in providing accommodations.

Accommodations that are not academic in nature will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis by division/department(s) responsible for the services or programs involved.

At TWU, the responsibility for provision of appropriate accommodations is decentralized. The Equity of Access Office documents disabilities, recommends appropriate accommodations, and helps to coordinate accommodations but provision of the accommodations is the responsibility of the division/department normally responsible for that function.

Step 4 – If agreement cannot be reached

If a student is unhappy with the response of the University, the Director of the Equity of Access Office may refer the matter to the Committee to Accommodate Equity of Access. This committee will review relevant information and recommend appropriate action.

Douglas Centre

Tel: 604.513.2025

Fax: 604.513.2041

E-mail: stinson@twu.ca

Web site: www.twu.ca/life/wellness/learningresources

Health Services

Wellness plays a significant role in the success of the university student. Health gives a student the freedom to concentrate on fulfilling his or her potential. Maintaining optimum health is important, but learning to realize and access help when needed is also a key element of wellness.

Health Services seeks to promote 'whole-person' health by providing quality health care that is accessible, competent, and appropriate to a university setting.

TWU's Health Services offers a walk-in medical office staffed by a physician, a nurse, and medical office staff. All visits are strictly confidential. The medical clinic operates as a regular doctor's office. Patients are seen by appointment or on a walk-in basis. Some of the services include:

- Clinical functions including assessment and treatment of injury and illness.
- Blood and lab sample services.
- Educational functions that address a variety of wellness, prevention, and lifestyle topics and support for students to manage personal health changes.
- Literature on numerous health issues; website with health services information and resource links.
- Student leadership positions (Peer Wellness

Promoters) providing education and promotion of good health to students, which includes online interactive health chats.

- Manage information for enrolling and maintaining students on British Columbia Medical Services Plan (BCMSP Health Insurance).

*Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.,
Monday - Friday (Sept. - April)*

Closed weekends and holidays

Location:

*Health Services:
Medical Clinic 2nd floor Douglas Centre*

*The “dougout”: Student Leaders
Wellness Resource Room
1st floor Douglas Centre*

Tel: 604.513.2024

Fax: 604.513.2041

E-mail: rital@twu.ca

Web site: www.twu.ca/life/wellness/health

Learning Resource Services

At TWU, we desire to see all students succeed in their personal and academic pursuits. The Learning Resource Centre provides educational coaching and training, writing assistance, workshops, a Study Skills class, and a resource library. Some of the topics addressed in the Study Skills class are: time management, effective note-taking and test-taking, memory strategies, overcoming procrastination, and dealing with stress and test anxiety.

The Learning Resource Centre is strategically located as a part of the Wellness Centre. Because the root cause of poor academic performance is often related to non-academic issues, being grouped with the health, counselling and recreation functions allows for easy referral to additional resources.

Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday

Douglas Centre

Tel: 604.513.2025

Fax: 604.513.2041

E-mail: stinson@twu.ca

*Web site: www.twu.ca/life/wellness/
learningresources*

Recreation Services

Overall wellness is positively affected by recreational involvement. Whether participating in a high-spirited basketball game or taking a reflective walk around the campus, students' total experience will be enriched because of the attention given to their physical condition.

Recreation Services staff organize and administer a comprehensive program replete with intramural sports, club teams, group fitness and special events. The primary purpose of this program is to encourage an atmosphere that emphasizes participation regardless of athletic ability. Intramurals includes sports such as volleyball, basketball and flag football. Club sport teams compete in local leagues and include hockey, soccer, rugby and crew. These teams depend upon students taking the initiative to form the club while Recreation Services provides the coaching and funding model. Group fitness is offered in the form of aerobics, boxercise, and other fitness classes. Softball or badminton tournaments, a cross-

country eco-challenge and First Responder training represent some of the special events. In addition to all these, students have access to the year round fitness trail that encircles the campus.

Recreation Services Assistants (RSAs) are student leaders who organize most of the leagues and tournaments for the University community. RSA's learn the practical side of implementing and evaluating recreational programs. Other leadership opportunities in Recreation Services include referees for intramural leagues and tournaments, instructors for the fitness programs, gymnasium supervisors, and sport representatives (captains for intramural teams).

Recreation Services Office

Douglas Centre

Tel: 604.513.2025

Fax: 604.513.2041

Web site: www.twu.ca/recservices

Community Life

Sheldon Loepky, Director

Connecting with a disciple-making, personally challenging, academic community significantly enhances a student's education. Research indicates that students who invest in the campus community have greater social confidence, better connection with faculty and staff, higher persistence in accomplishing educational goals, increased grade point averages, and fonder reflections of their university experience.

Community Life's goal is to develop environments and opportunities where students can find belonging, have influence, develop relationships, and serve one another. Through community, students learn more about themselves, their relationship to God and others, and their calling in life.

Community Life staff equip and develop approximately 100 student leaders to pilot many commuter, residential, international, and graduate student programs. Community Life has a history of developing students through experiential learning opportunities outside the classroom.

Commuter Programs

Students who live off campus are encouraged to become involved in the Trinity Western University community. All student programs and services at Trinity Western are available to commuting students.

The Marlie Snider Collegium Project is an exciting program for commuters at TWU. Collegial commuter facilities are a 'home away from home' for more than 700 commuter students; each collegium is focused around academic disciplines or designated student classes. A collegium is a relaxing refuge before, between, and after classes and is a great place to connect with other students, staff, and faculty. Collegium Project Assistants (CAs) support commuter students in their transition to and development at Trinity Western University. These intentional communities are fully equipped with kitchens, lounge areas, and space for eating, studying, and accessing reference materials. CAs also help organize events in the collegium throughout the year. Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. The Collegium facilities are closed on all major holidays and during Independent Student Week. For Collegium Project membership, see Student Life for

a Collegium Project enrolment card. Other special services, programs, facilities, and opportunities for commuter students include:

- Rental Properties information and listing of places to rent in the Fraser Valley – the Front Desk, Reimer Student Centre, or www.twu.ca/housing;
- Carpool Ride Board, connect with other students living near your home for an economic commute – beside the University Bookstore, Reimer Student Centre;
- Carpool Parking Passes, preferred parking spots – Parking Services, Facility Services Building;
- Lockers free of charge as available – register with faculty secretary's office in the Neufeld Science Centre or Robert N. Thomson Building.
- Small Groups – commuter students can become a member of a discipleship (D-Group) or personal support group, focussed on a wide variety of topics (e.g. eating disorders, depression, low self-esteem, relationships, career goals, study skills, men's and women's issues, etc). Retreats and one-on-one mentoring are other options for involvement;
- Student Leadership Opportunities – Student Life Office, Reimer Student Centre;
- Lower Caf/Lounge, comfortable furniture, pool table, microwaves and screen TV – lower Douglas Centre.

For guidelines regarding living in community and for General University Policies, refer to the Trinity Western University Student Handbook at www.twu.ca/studenthandbook.

Resident Programs

Each residence hall is divided into small groups of 14 to 22 students, peer led by a Resident Assistant (RA). Resident Directors (RDs), professional staff living on campus, work with student leaders and resident students to foster a living-learning environment that promotes individual and group development. The residences at Trinity Western are not just a place to sleep at night, but are viewed as an important location to develop students. Through daily interaction, Community Life staff encourage students to reflect on what they are learning about themselves through their university experience. Time management, conflict resolution, accountability, tolerance, and respect for differences are a few learning outcomes gained from living in community.

Other special services, programs, and opportunities for residence students include:

- Dorm Meetings – RAs and resident students lead weekly small group meetings focusing on social, spiritual, relational, accountability, and academic issues.
- Social Outings and Activities – Resident students regularly enjoy outings and activities with other dorms and students through 'dorm dates', 'all stars', and other student-led social activities both on and off campus.
- All Campus Meetings – Every few weeks, invited guest speakers share their life experiences with resident students, which is often connected to other programs at the University.

- Small Groups – Besides dorm meetings, resident students can become a member of a discipleship (D-Group) or a personal support group, which focuses on a variety of topics (e.g., eating disorders, depression, low self-esteem, relationships, career goals, study skills, men's and women's issues, etc.).
- Student Leadership Opportunities – contact the Student Life Office, Reimer Student Centre.

For guidelines regarding living in community, living in residence and university policies, refer to the Trinity Western University Student Handbook at www.twu.ca/studenthandbook.

International Programs

Nearly 30 countries are represented in the student body. International students are found throughout the University community, in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program, and at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. International and ESL students contribute to the diversity of the TWU community, helping enrich every student's education.

International Student Programs (ISP) serves as a voice for the international student population. ISP provides orientation and support to International students, assisting them in their transition to living in Canada. This bridge between North American and international students serves to heighten campus awareness by advocating for equity where differences and tensions may arise. ISP provides activities and a "home away from home" atmosphere for international and poly-cultural students as well as missionary students who face transition challenges returning to North American culture. International dorms, made up of 50 per cent ESL students and 50 per cent North American students, provide an opportunity for intentional interaction between students from differing cultures. An established language partner program provides ESL students the opportunity to practise English. In addition, there are many programs, formal and informal, which provide for cross-cultural exchange and that increased global awareness on campus. At present, there are three international Fellowship Groups available to students who wish to study the Bible and fellowship in their native tongue (Mandarin, Korean, and Japanese). "The Globe," an international student centre (Patio Apartments, MacMillan Hall), is a popular gathering point for cross-cultural integration and interaction.

Other special services, programs, and opportunities for international students include:

- Monthly activities (both on and off campus) which provide international students a safe and structured environment to build relationships with other international and non-international students;
- Mu Kappa ministry for missionary kids – a network of international students that provides support to missionary and third culture kids. Regular activities include visiting a faculty member's home, Bible studies, worship nights, and off-campus outings;
- Regular orientation seminars geared towards addressing the needs of international students;

- Re-entry preparation and support for international students who will return to their home countries;
- English International Bible Study which teaches the foundation of Christianity for international students who are exploring Christianity or who are new in their faith.

For guidelines regarding living in community, living in residence and university policies, refer to the Trinity Western University Student Handbook at www.twu.ca/studenthandbook.

Graduate Programs

Graduate students are encouraged to become involved in the Trinity Western University community. All student programs and services at Trinity Western are available to graduate students.

The Graduate Student Facility is a new facility for graduate students at TWU. The collegial facility is a 'home away from home' for more than 300 graduate students - a blend of Graduate School, ACTS Seminaries, and CanIL students. Built with collegium-like comforts, the Graduate Student Facility is a relaxing refuge before, between, and after classes and is a great place to connect with other graduate students, staff, faculty, and program directors. Graduate Student Assistants (GSAs) support graduate students in their transition to and development at Trinity Western. And they help organize events in the Graduate Student Facility throughout the year. The facility has a fully equipped kitchen, social and quiet areas, individual and group meeting rooms, and space for eating, studying, and accessing reference materials. Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. Select Saturdays are also open, corresponding with graduate program schedules. The Graduate Student Facility is closed on most major holidays. For Graduate Student Facility membership, see Student Life for a Graduate Student Facility enrolment card.

Other special services and opportunities for graduate students include:

- Rental Properties information and listing of places to rent in the Fraser Valley; located at The Front Desk, Reimer Student Centre, or www.twu.ca/housing;
- Carpool Ride Board, connect with other students who live near for an economical commute; located beside the University Bookstore, Reimer Student Centre;
- Carpool Parking Passes, preferred parking spots – Parking Services, Facility Services Building;
- Student Leadership Opportunities – contact the Student Life Office, Reimer Student Centre

For guidelines regarding living in community and university policies, refer to the Trinity Western University Student Handbook at www.twu.ca/studenthandbook.

Laurentian Leadership Centre

Community Life has extended its Langley borders and found a home at the Laurentian Leadership Centre (LLC) in Ottawa. The historic and beautifully restored mansion, once the home of the Booth family, is a premier landmark only eight blocks from Parliament Hill. Supporting the LLC's

academic and internship program, the LLC community accommodates up to 23 residence students and is led by the Community Life Coordinator. Whether hanging out in the communal and fully equipped kitchen, studying in the drawing room, or finding a quiet sunroom in which to relax for the afternoon, the LLC provides a stunning home and gathering place for students. Living and learning in this unique community facilitates opportunities for growth in terms of life calling (career), community development, and leadership opportunities.

Specific program opportunities include:

- Weekly or biweekly Metcalfe Meetings, Bible Studies, and Worship Nights designed to challenge students, promote learning outcomes, and encourage spiritual renewal;
- Participation in Service Teams which serve the overall needs of the community and provide student leadership opportunities;
- Fellowship Meals contributed by students and staff that allow for relaxed community interaction;
- Recreation and information promoting student wellness;
- Excursions, exploring Ottawa, Kingston, Montreal, the Gatineaus and elsewhere;
- Learning and networking at events, conferences, through guest speakers, and by simply experiencing living life in downtown Ottawa.

For more information on the Laurentian Leadership Centre program, visit www.twu.ca/laurentian. For guidelines regarding living in community, living in residence, and university policies, refer to the Trinity Western University Student Handbook at www.twu.ca/studenthandbook.

Community Life Auxiliary Offices:

- Assistant Director of Community Life, Resident Programs
- Assistant Director of Community Life, Commuter Programs
- Assistant Director of Community Life, International Programs
- Resident Directors

Douglas Centre, Mezzanine Level

Assistant Director of Community Life, Graduate Programs:

Graduate Student Facility, Fosmark Centre

Community Life Coordinator, Laurentian Leadership Centre

Ottawa, Ontario

Tel: 604.513.2025

Fax: 604.513.2013

Tel. 613.569.7511 (Ottawa)

Fax: 613.236.5500 (Ottawa)

Web site: www.twu.ca

Dean of Students and Director of Community Life Office:

Reimer Student Centre, Student Life

E-mail: loepky@twu.ca

Web site: www.twu.ca

First Year Experience Office

Cathy Chapplow, Director

First Year Experience

Trinity Western acknowledges the imperative nature of good beginnings. A well-informed start leads to greater satisfaction in the experience and an enhanced likelihood of personal success. A healthy start can also lead to persistence through the challenges that may arise. For these reasons the University places a high priority on its orientation programs.

New students are not only heartily welcomed as members of a learning community, they are given an array of opportunities to appreciate this time of adjustment in their lives. They are encouraged to adopt a mindset where ownership of the community and its core values are embraced. TWU desires to see each student begin his or her university experience in a positive way.

The first week of the fall semester is known as “Orientation Week” (O-Week). Coordinated by the director of Orientation Programs, a team of more than 72 staff and student leaders implement the various aspects of the week. Students check in, confirm their initial semester classes, gain insights on campus services and layout, participate in several small group settings, meet other students who are studying the same subject, and gain a general introduction to the characteristics of the TWU community.

Connections is an extended orientation program that allows students in a small group setting to form meaningful relationships with others in their major. Connections groups meet several times during the semester and enable students to explore in depth the benefits of a Trinity Western education.

The keystone component of orientation at TWU is the First Year Experience class, University 101. This one credit hour course provides new students with the opportunity to explore topics such as: How do I succeed in university? How do I clarify life pursuits? How do I understand current relationships? The lab portion of this class is accomplished through the Connections groups so students can advance efficiently through their total orientation experience.

SPIN

The University has identified that students in their first year of studies need to connect socially and students in their second year of studies need to connect academically.

Research has shown that students have a difficult time during their second year of studies. This phenomenon is called the “sophomore slump.” Unsure of their life’s calling and which major to choose, students feel the academic pressures in their second year. Sophomore Peer INitatives (SPIN) is a program designed to address these needs. Second year students are invited to return early in the fall, settle in and re-connect with friends during SPIN Cycle (Transition Week). They take ownership of their experience by helping to plan the activities they will participate in during the year. This program is voluntary, with students choosing their peer group (SPIN Team).

*First Year Experience Office
Douglas Centre*

Tel: 604.513.2025

Fax: 604.513.2013

Web site: www.twu.ca/life/experience

Student Ministries

Rob Rhea, Director

Student Ministries provides opportunities for students to grow in faith and to express their faith in acts of service. It also strives to provide opportunities for those who are not Christians to be exposed to the truth of Jesus’ teachings in a clear and compelling way. Student Ministries seeks to influence students toward becoming godly Christian leaders through initiatives in five primary areas: chapel, discipleship, global projects, outreach/evangelism/service, and prayer.

Chapel

Trinity Western chapels are a vibrant part of campus life. Every weekday, hundreds of students, faculty, and staff are encouraged in their relationship with Jesus and challenged by the needs of our world through music, drama, dance, multimedia, teaching, prayer, and testimonies.

The mission of TWU’s chapel program, as enabled by the Holy Spirit, is to lead people, personally and corporately, into a fresh awareness of God’s greatness and goodness (revelation), where they can express their praise and thanks to Him (response) and be transformed into the people He desires them to be (renewal). Four core values drive the chapel program: being Christ-centred, fostering discipleship, being community-oriented, and being culturally relevant in how we communicate the truth of God.

Chapel is an opportunity for Christians of all backgrounds to unite in praise. The community includes worshippers from liturgical and charismatic backgrounds, new believers and lifelong disciples, Baby-boomers and Generation X-ers, as well as those from local and international cultures.

TWU’s chapel program is voluntary. Instead, students are encouraged to choose to make chapel an important part of their spiritual growth as they attend. This approach brings a powerful energy to the chapels, because the students who attend truly desire to be there.

For many students, chapel is also a significant opportunity for leadership development. Students participate through music, drama, dance teams, or set-up and sound crews. Worship team auditions are held during the preceding spring (returning students) and in the fall for new students.

Chapel also includes Sunday Night Alive, an extended student-led worship time held every second Sunday evening. The hour-long service includes worship through music, corporate and individual prayer, testimonies, Scripture readings, and other creative elements.

Discipleship and Sport Ministry

Discipleship is a cornerstone of Trinity Western University and, in particular, of Student Ministries. In its simplest form, a disciple is a learner or follower—a student of a teacher or mentor. At TWU, students are taught and encouraged to be followers of Jesus Christ, in obedience to His teachings and the Scriptures.

Praying, teaching, and listening are key elements in discipleship. In TWU discipleship programs, students pray for students (Jas 5:16), students teach students (2 Tim 4:2), and students listen to students (Job 4:4).

There are more than 30 discipleship groups on campus. A student leader cares for each group, and each leader is, in turn, mentored by a discipleship coordinator. In TWU's program, men disciple men and women disciple women.

Sport Ministry is a discipleship effort focused on seeing TWU's athletes grow in their faith. The spiritual needs of athletes are not unique but the ways to meet those needs must be specific to their situation. TWU's desire is for its athletes to make a positive impact and model Christ-like character in the community and in the leagues in which they play.

Global Projects

Short-term missionary service provides members of TWU's community with opportunities to see firsthand the urgent needs of people in the world and to play a part in meeting some of those needs. For many, it is a life-changing experience as they step outside their comfort zones and trust in God to minister in and through them to others. Each year, during Reading Break and the month of May, teams led by students, staff, and faculty are sent throughout the world in obedience to Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations. Teams go to serve and learn. They learn about other cultures, about loving each other, about leading peers, and about wholeheartedly loving and following Jesus.

On campus, a group of missions-minded students are led by two student missions coordinators. This group meets weekly to pray for the world. It invites speakers and organizations to address current trends and issues in world missions; it maintains a library of short and long-term missions opportunities; and it organizes and runs the Student Missions Conference. The week-long conference held every January includes seminars, lectures, keynote chapel speakers, and participation by more than 50 missions agencies.

Outreach/Evangelism/Service

Outreach and evangelism programs provide students with a practical outlet to share their faith and demonstrate Christ's love to others. Involvement in these programs provides a platform from which students can mature in the spiritual disciplines of love and compassion. Outreach and evangelism groups challenge students to "learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful" (Titus 3:14). They share their faith through creative and innovative approaches. Such practical opportunities can be pivotal in developing a student's ability to positively integrate Christianity into today's culture.

Outreach and evangelism opportunities also enhance community living. By bringing together people who share common interests and concerns, these programs allow students to build friendships based upon service, fellowship, accountability, and support (Eph 4:16).

A variety of campus and off-campus volunteer opportunities are available. Students serve with organizations such as Union Gospel Mission (street evangelism in Vancouver), YDI (youth crisis telephone), Pro Life Society, Valley Therapeutic Equestrian Centre (helping disabled children ride horses), Langley Lodge (visiting the elderly), Prison Ministries, and Campus Crusade for Christ. There are also several on-campus groups that attend to the needs of the university community.

Prayer

Prayer was at the heart of Jesus' ministry during His time on earth. His life was characterized by continual communion with His Father through prayer. By His example, Christians are compelled to strive toward this unity of heart and mind with God. One of the primary messages of the Scriptures is that God desires His people to seek Him in prayer. As they do, He will reveal Himself and His will. With so many directions being set during the university years, it is crucial that students be given many opportunities to grow in their understanding of prayer. Armed with knowledge of prayer and its power, students will be equipped for the present work of God in their lives and for the path they select after Trinity Western.

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