

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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Welcome to Gustavus!



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SIAS students introduced to Gustavus

Samantha Walters
News Editor

Orientation has started early for students and mentors in the SIAS program.

The Summer Institute for Academic Success, or SIAS, is a program that brings unique and underrepresented students to campus for an extra week before the rest of the first-years move in.

This gives them a chance to get to know the campus and each other, as well as get a head-start on college life.

Those that are mentored also attend events and spend time with their mentors getting to know their professors and other campus resources.

The program is offered to many students, like those who are multilingual or multicultural, as well as first-generation students, Pell Grant recipients, and HUG students, or historically underrepresented groups.

Some of these groups include veterans, people of color, and LGBTQ+ students.

"It's a wide variety of students... a lot of people fit under these categories," Karrie Villarreal, a junior mentor in the SIAS program said.

Villarreal describes the program as a pre-orientation, or a jump-start to life at Gustavus.

She was in SIAS her first year and has been a mentor for her sophomore and junior year.

"I really liked the idea of getting to know my surroundings. I knew this campus was predominantly white, so I was initially nervous. But the program brings together similar



Ben Wick

Karrie Villarreal enjoys her second year as a mentor and third year as a member.

people going through similar situations," she said.

The program has been around for over four years and has been increasing in popularity.

"There's so much about this program that means so much to the people that go through it," Villarreal said.

During the course of one week, students get to know their mentors, other SIAS students, and their Collegiate Fellows and Gustie Greeters.

"I feel really excited about

the different cultures and practices that will be represented on our floor.

"I'm also excited about the things we will learn from each other and how we can grow and impact the campus," Junior Collegiate Fellow Aleah Felton said.

Another Collegiate Fellow mentioned how excited she is to get to know her



The "D-Center" brings students together from all over the world. Gustavus Marketing Office

SIAS residents:

"It's really fun because it gives you a chance to get to know them before people move in and hear things from a different perspective," Sophomore Jocelyn Jaimez said.

SIAS students attend many activities to help prepare them for classroom and social situations to come.

They build friendships and get to know different campus resources available, such as the Diversity Center, Career Center, Writing Center, and Peer Education Office.

There are multiple sessions offered throughout the week that teach them about Gusta-

vus, college life, and their new environment.

The program is free to students and sets the foundation for their busy orientation weekend by providing a tour of the campus, Mankato, and St. Peter.

Part of their experience includes getting to know other international students who have moved in early as well.

To finish off their busy week, they celebrate with a small graduation for completing their first week of college.

"The program has changed my life for the better... I love working with underrepresented first-years and helping them feel at home!" Villarreal said.

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GUSTIE *of the* WEEK

Joyce Amakoue

Sofia Boda
Variety Editor

Junior Joyce Amakoue is the epitome of a person who makes the most of every day.

Originally born in the West African nation of Togo, Joyce and her family came to Minnesota in 2002, and currently reside in the city of Bloomington. This past week, Joyce traveled from Bloomington to Gustavus to begin training to become a Gustie Greeter and welcome the Class of 2022 to campus.

Her dedication to helping others started early. Growing up in Bloomington, she attended Kennedy High School, she enjoyed playing and managing sports as well as participating in service-centered organizations. When it came time to choose a college, Joyce applied to several, but she selected Gustavus because of the sense of community she felt on campus and how she felt she could "picture herself there more than any other place."

She also appreciates how students are able to have a unique one-on-one connection with professors, versus other universities where the

class sizes make developing a professor-student relationship difficult.

Like any other First-year student, her first weekend at college posed a new set of challenges and emotions. "I was actually really shy, homesick, and overall sad because I was missing my family and friends," Joyce said. She recalls

"Joyce is resilient, full of laughter, and 110% dedicated to whatever she does."

-Junior Lindsey Schmidt

a moment where she went to her Gustie Greeter for advice when she felt like she was not making enough friends right away. "I remember my greeter telling me that she did not make her good group of friends until the spring over her sophomore year, and I said that is a long time to wait, but okay. But, I fortunately found my people that year!"

Two years later, Joyce has come a long way from that first weekend of college. Aside from being a greeter, he has been a part of the Pan-African Student Organization (PASO), a board member of the President's Board for Diversity,

Equity, and Inclusion, and A Moment of Magic. She even found time to manage the track team as a First-year, and works in the campus counseling center.

Her incredible involvement isn't the only way Joyce stands out on campus. In December 2017, Joyce was named a part of the St. Lucia court at the college's 77th annual Festival of St. Lucia Celebration. St. Lucia and her court are a group of sophomore girls nominated by campus-wide vote based on their "service to others, strength of character, courageous leadership, and compassion," according to the Gustavus website.

"Being selected was really exciting and kind of surprising. I remember they sent out the list of all of the sophomore girls and thinking that someone else would get it," Joyce said. "But, when I saw that I had gotten top five, I was so honored and it was really amazing to see the impact that I had on people."

Joyce especially enjoyed how friendly and supportive the other members of the St. Lucia court were. What was her favorite part of being in the court? "Caroling around the halls with everyone! I love



Abby Anderson

Fun fact: Joyce loves to read, listen to music, and spend time with friends.

Christmas, so getting to sing Christmas songs and wake everyone up at six in the morning was great".

Aside from her warm and welcoming nature, she is also known at Gustavus for her outstanding work in the classroom. She was recently accepted into the nursing program and has been recognized on the Dean's List for maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.7 out of 4.0 or higher.

Though it may prove difficult to balance countless activities with school, Joyce makes it seem easy. She likes to live by the motto "work hard, play hard," and she always makes sure to take care of herself and make time in her schedule to do things she loves. "I always like setting a goal to look forward to at the end of the day or the week," Joyce said.

Her own experience as a First-year is one of the things that shapes the way she mentors incoming students. "I wish someone had told me [that] it is not always going to be easy. The things that you struggle with will not always be the same things someone else is struggling with, and you shouldn't compare your journey to anyone else's."

As for making friends in college, Joyce reminds First-years to "not try to be someone you aren't to make friends. Know that your friends will come to you when the time is right. Take your time, and don't rush anything."

It is certain that Joyce's future is dazzlingly bright. Thank you, Joyce, for all you do for our community!



Gustie Greeter Joyce Amakoue's stellar smile and bubbly personality light up the Gustavus campus.

Abby Anderson

How to do the Caf: a guide for first-years

Cyclone Pizzeria

Hours: 10:30am-11:00pm
Pasta bar open until 8pm

The Cyclone Pizzeria is home to both Wood-fire baked pizza and pasta. The pasta bar contains various shapes of pasta, as well as red sauce, alfredo, and meat sauce. Pizza toppings change daily, as does the specialty pasta, often a type of stuffed ravioli or tortellini. You can even order your own pizza and take it to-go! Other occasional specials include Bosco Sticks, special baked pasta, and breakfast pizza. If you ask nicely, they'll even make a pizza bagel for you.



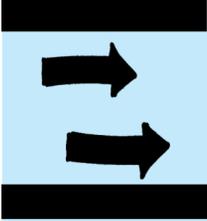
Hours: 11am-2pm; 4:00pm-7:00pm
United Nations
 Burrito bar is all you need to know.

We all can remember the time when we were first-years having just arrived on campus here on the Hill and feeling completely befuddled about anything and everything. Throughout the years, the Cafeteria has been home to dazed and confused first-years just trying to figure out how to get a cheeseburger or a salad, causing chaos for everyone bearing witness. Another familiar feeling to us all is the terror one experiences when checking how much money is left on their meal plan at the end of the month and realizing you've gone a hundred dollars in the red. Here is all you need to know about navigating the Marketplace.

Hello Wok
 Asian buffet on Wednesdays, noodle bowl Tuesdays.
Hello Wok & Veri Vegi hours:
 10:30am-2pm; 4:00pm-7:00pm

Veri Vegi
 Satisfies your vegetarian and vegan needs!
 Try the Garden tenders.

Bakery



Gustieware here!

Hours: 7:00am-9:00pm
 (opens at 9am Sunday)
Gustie Grille
 The Gustie Grille satisfies all of your appetizer needs, with onion rings, french fries, chicken strips and other various fried foods. To the right are your burgers, chicken patties, and grilled chicken breasts complete with any toppings you may desire. In the morning hours, breakfast is served at the grille: featuring hasbrowns, bacon, eggs, sausage, and pancakes. Thursday is steak night.

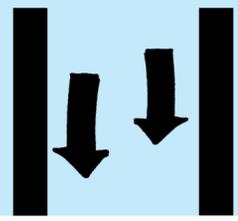
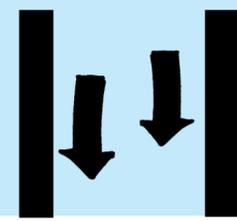
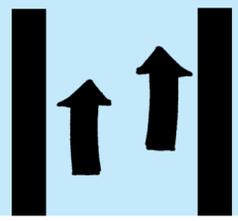
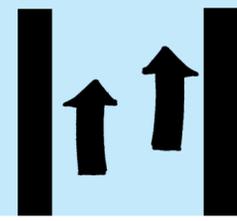
Waffle Bar

Country Garden
 Hours: 9:00am-7:30pm
 The traditional fruit and salad bar. Oatmeal mix also available!

Rotisserie
Hours: 10:30am-7:00pm
 Visit the Rotisserie for your away-from-home home-style meals. Mashed potatoes, sweet corn, roasted chicken, and mixed veggies are available daily at this station. Specials include chicken kiev, chicken cordon bleu, and gyro fridays!

Market Deli
Hours: 10:30am-11:00pm
 Wraps, sub sandwiches, croissants, oh my!

Coffee bar



Water and pop machines