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Aug30

Paul

## **Early observations from New Student Orientation**

I think what strikes me initially is the sense of bewilderment on their faces. New students and their families are busy today taking in the sights at the start of <u>RIT New Student Orientation</u>, which gets underway with move-in activities and the Orientation Resource Fair.



Susan Gawlowicz, Vienna Carvalho, Marcia Morphy and I staff the early shift at the University News table.

Their bewilderment is completely understandable. They are among more than 2,600 other families who join the RIT community today, with its campus population now tipping the scales at about 20,000 people (students, faculty and staff). Also, they are learning to navigate a sprawling campus that continues to evolve and expand. It continues to leave me in awe, to be honest.

I'm here with my <u>University News</u> colleagues at the Gordon Field House taking part in the annual resource fair. We're here every year, joining a variety of other campus organization. It's a great opportunity to introduce new students and their parents to the services we provide—keeping the RIT community up to date on news and information related to the university. It's particularly important this year for University News as we attempt push more people toward making use of our social media offerings.

But I think what each of us enjoy most is the opportunity to meet the families and share in their pride to be here. By mid-morning, we've already met people from Colorado, California—even Spain. That's right, RIT is having an international impact on the world of higher education. The evidence is all around us.

So welcome everybody! It's great to have you join the RIT family. And remember, wherever you go on campus, there is a community ready and eager to help out. Just enjoy the ride!

1.	Shawna Lusk Aug30	
	And please bring coff	ee when you come! :-)
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