Hello Incoming Class of 2019:

We wanted to start by congratulating and welcoming you to Duquesne University. Our names are Dan Smolsky and Ben Fiorina, and we have the pleasure of serving as the directors of Orientation 2019! While we understand that the beginning of college is an often intimidating and overwhelming time, our program is designed to ensure that your transition to campus life runs as smoothly as possible for everyone involved. We are Duquesne students ourselves, and having gone through Orientation only a few years ago, we believe that we have implemented new changes and ideas to make your first week on the Bluff even more enjoyable and educational than it has been in past years. Throughout Orientation week, we will offer a variety of events and services that cater to individuals of all backgrounds and interests. We firmly believe that attending these events and getting to know your peers and the student leaders will offer you the best introduction to both Duquesne and the city of Pittsburgh.

Orientation week will begin with Move-In Day on Tuesday, August 20th and last until Sunday, August 25th, which is the day before classes begin! You will be assigned two team leaders who are student volunteers tasked with leading a group of roughly twenty incoming students throughout the week. Your team leaders will be your primary resource for learning all about college life, academics, and the surrounding Pittsburgh area. These sessions with your team leaders will give you an opportunity to get to know your peers on a more personal level, hopefully leading to lasting friendships and more involvement throughout the week. There will also be a plethora of large group sessions that all new students are invited to attend, including but not limited to our late night events, the Graffiti Dance, a comedian, a magician, and the new student talent show!

This year’s Orientation theme is Begin. Build. Become. When our staff met at the beginning of the year to choose a theme for our program, we wanted to pick one that would generate excitement for both you and your families. Throughout your time as a student, Duquesne University will give you the opportunity to begin your journey, build your future, and become yourself. We cannot wait to meet you all this fall and see who you are going to become at Duquesne!

Please feel free to contact us throughout the summer with any questions or concerns that may come up, or simply just to introduce yourselves before the week begins. We will also be hosting information sessions at the FAST program to introduce ourselves to the new students and share a preview of what can be expected at Orientation! Our office number is +1 412.396.6641 and our email is orientation@duq.edu. Enjoy the rest of the summer and we look forward to meeting you soon!

Sincerely,

Daniel Smolsky
Director of Orientation

Benjamin Fiorina
Assistant Director of Orientation