Dear New Student,

First, congratulations on your acceptance to the Johnson School and I am pleased that you have decided to join us here in Ithaca later this summer. As a proud alumna of the Johnson School I will also take this opportunity to welcome you to the Johnson School community of students, faculty, staff and thousands of alumni worldwide.

Over the next few months these messages will help you prepare for your arrival at the Johnson School. Please read each Sage News very carefully and contact us immediately at NewStudents@johnson.cornell.edu if anything is unclear. This email focuses on making sure that you are prepared for our academic coursework and career programming. Subsequent emails will provide additional details and to do’s for your start at the Johnson School this August.

Also remember that our New Students Website is a great resource as you prepare to join us in Ithaca; access it often as we will be continuously updating items as new information is available. We also have a Facebook group for our incoming students. We are looking forward to seeing you in Ithaca very soon and we’ll be keeping in touch with you right up until the program starts in August.

Amanda Shaw
Director, Student Services

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**Career Discovery Panels** – in New York this June!

**Important Dates and Orientation**
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**Career Discovery Panels**
Our Career Management Center is working to organize three panel discussions with alumni and leaders in the fields of finance, marketing and consulting on June 16, 17, and 18, respectively. These panels will help incoming students learn about these career paths, what these recruiters look for in MBA students, and meet other incoming Johnson School students.

You may indicate your interest in attending one or more of the panels online at Career Discovery NYC Events. The panels will be held at 5 p.m. in locations around Manhattan – to be announced as soon as they are confirmed. We are also working to set up video of these sessions for students outside the New York area; this will depend on the willingness of our gracious participants to be taped.

Stay tuned for more details!

**Important Dates, including Orientation**
**Wednesday, August 5th – Friday, August 7th**: Pre-Orientation course, Quantitative Skills for the Core (by invitation)
**Saturday, August 8th**: Pre-Orientation session, International Orientation (international students only)
**Sunday, August 9th, afternoon**: MBA Orientation
**Monday, August 10th – Tuesday, August 18th**: MBA Orientation
**Wednesday, August 19th**: Core Classes Begin
**Friday, August 21st – Saturday, August 22nd**: Johnson Outdoor Experience J.O.E. (registration required)

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**Orientation**
We expect all enrolling 2-year MBA students to attend the entire MBA Orientation program, which begins on Sunday, August 9th. Read more below about International Orientation and additional Orientation activities. Information regarding the Pre-Orientation course, Quantitative Skills for the Core, can be found under Academic Preparation.

International Students Pre-Orientation Session will be held on Saturday, August 8th. We encourage all international students to attend this session, especially those who have not previously studied in the U.S. Please register for International Orientation via the Orientation events registration form on the New Students Website.

Orientation Events Requiring Pre-Registration - Register online!
Wine Tasting Event: Tuesday August 11th, 6-9 p.m. (adults only)
Cayuga Lake Boat Cruises: Saturday, August 15th, 3, 5:30 or 8 p.m. (families welcome)

Johnson Outdoor Experience (J.O.E.): Friday, August 21st – Saturday, August 22nd
J.O.E. is a two-day retreat at a lakeside camp in our home, the beautiful Finger Lakes region of New York. Many students rate it as one of the best Orientation events and a highlight of their entire Johnson School experience. Read more about J.O.E. on the New Students Web site, and register soon!

Academic Preparation and Core Course Information
To help develop the quantitative skills you will need throughout the core curriculum, we strongly encourage all incoming students to complete the online course, MBAMath.

About MBAMath: All students should complete MBAMath as part of their preparation for entering the MBA program. Before accessing the course, review the additional information about this course and how to use it on the Academic Preparation page of the New Students Web site.

To access MBAMath:
The Johnson School has paid for your subscription, so do not register again as an individual. To enter the course, click the 'Existing User Sign In' link at the top right of the home page. Then sign in with the user name and password as follows:

Username: your full e-mail address (this will be the e-mail that was "on file" with the Johnson School at the time you paid your deposit)

Password: please contact Jenny Ruhanen at (607) 254-5446 or jmr372@cornell.edu.

Pre-Orientation Course: Quantitative Skills for the Core
Our Quantitative Skills for the Core pre-Orientation course takes place at the Johnson School in Ithaca, New York, on Wednesday, August 5th – Friday, August 7th. Quantitative Skills for the Core will provide an in-depth and comprehensive preview of key quantitative concepts and terminology used in the Core courses. We will invite selected students who we believe will most benefit from this in-depth and in-person session to register for this course in the coming weeks. After inviting those students we will consider registration from other students who feel they need to attend this course.

Recommended Reading and Core Course Textbooks
Suggested readings can be found on the Academic Preparation page on the New Students Website. A list of required and optional textbooks is found under Core Books, also on the New Students Website.

Core Course Exemptions
For those interested in potentially exempting one or more core classes, the exemption policies for each core course and some sample exemption exams (exams will be given during Orientation in August) are found online in the Johnson School MBA Handbook.

Career Management
Early Career Focus must be a priority. We know that many MBA’s come to business school looking to make a career shift -- whether radical or minor. Because the program moves at an extremely fast pace, getting focused quickly will give you an advantage. Two blog posts from MBA students at Kellogg help illustrate what many MBA’s experience as they search out a career.

Here’s a checklist of some of the tasks to get started on prior to arriving in August.

☐ Reaffirm your career goals:
Take a career self-assessment ‘test’ designed for MBAs. We will use this assessment as we begin working with you this fall.

Website: CareerLeader
User name: please contact the Career Management Center at (607) 255-4888
Password: please contact the Career Management Center at (607) 255-4888
Note: servers are case sensitive

☐ Take a stab at putting your resume into MBA Format:
Use our Resume Template to help you with layout and formatting.

☐ Read through the Career Planning sections of the New Students Website: Before you get to Sage and are busy with courses and other activities it is a great time to start researching careers and industries that interest you. You should also start networking on and gathering contacts that you will build on when you start the program and your official job search.

☐ Interested in Consulting? See CaseQuestions.com (on the left under case questions), an interactive site that allows you to individually learn about and practice case interviews. A 2008 MBA graduate used this tool to help improve her interview skills prior to her McKinsey interview. She got the offer and is joining McKinsey in the fall. The site will help you prepare for all aspects of your consulting career pursuit. The username and password is the same as what you used to access the Johnson School Admissions system (your application).

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Your Cornell NetID and Email
Cornell Information Technologies has been sending out, via a hard copy letter, your Cornell NetID and activation code. This will come in a standard business envelope with the return address of The Johnson School at Cornell University. Your Cornell NetID will enable you to access various Cornell technology services before and after you arrive on campus. So please keep an eye out for your Net ID letter!

Your Net ID letter will provide instructions to activate your NetID and access various services. We have been informed that the NetID pages also include information about Cornell’s new mail system called Cmail. Please note: Johnson School students do not need and should not use Cmail for email. While you will be able to use the services associated with this account, which will be explained when you arrive (it’s really Gmail from Google), email is not one of them as we provide you with an account on our own internal Microsoft Outlook/Exchange system when you arrive on campus. Our Outlook system is a robust platform for all manner of things that are unique to the Johnson School (events calendars, booking of breakout/team rooms, etc) and you will need to use this system as a student at the Johnson school. We apologize for the confusion on this matter and are working with Cornell Information Technologies to create a different landing page for Johnson students to address this issue.

If you have already made changes to your settings in order to access Cmail, you will want to go to www.whoiam.cornell.edu, remove the check mark for selecting Cmail, remove any addresses you may have entered, and leave the address that has your NetID in front of “johnson.cornell.edu”.

We expect over the summer to contact you at this email address, or in other words, your third party (i.e. yahoo, Gmail) account you provided to us during the Admissions process. Our students do not set up or begin checking their Cornell email until arrival in early August (at which time we will stop using your third party address).

If you have any questions about this or other technology concerns, please feel free to contact our HelpDesk.

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Enrollment Forms
There are several required and optional forms to complete as part of your enrollment at the Johnson School and Cornell University. The following are forms that you will access online through the Cornell Bound Forms for new students. As your Cornell NetID is still in process you may complete these forms by following the instructions to create an account within the forms website.

Required Forms:
☐ Student ID Form This card identifies you as a current member of the Cornell community and is used in libraries, dining units and for access to facilities on campus, including rooms within Sage Hall. This form will require you to upload a digital photo of yourself for your ID card.
☐ Bursar Disclosure Statement
☐ Health History Form Due June 12, 2009
Financial Aid

US Citizens and Permanent Residents, if you have not done so, it’s not too late to apply for student loans. Visit our Financial Aid Website for information and procedures.

Federal Subsidized/Unsubsidized and Grad PLUS Master Promissory Note (MPN):
For students accepting the Federal Direct Loan(s) that was outlined in their award notification and have applied for Grad PLUS, an online entrance counseling session and Master Promissory Note(s) will need to be completed. An email with instructions on how to complete these two steps will be emailed to you mid June. If you wish to apply for Grad PLUS you can submit the application that was attached to your award notification now.

International Students who are interested in our new no-cosigner loan program will receive a separate email in the coming weeks with the application instructions. This new loan program will allow our international students to borrow up to the cost of tuition less any scholarship received. You still have the option to borrow up to the cost of education with a credit worthy US or permanent resident co-signer. A co-signer loan may carry a lower interest rate. Visit our Financial Aid Website for more information.

If you are receiving aid (loans and scholarships), credits will appear on your August e-billing statement from the University Bursar. Some students may have financial aid in excess of the charges (tuition, health insurance, parking, etc). If you have applied for aid greater than the charges you will receive a refund for the difference. Once all aid has been credited to your account any credit balance will be refunded late August. These checks will be available at the University Bursar Office. However once you have your Cornell ID number (found when you activate your Net ID) you may sign up for Direct Deposit online.

If you have any questions about Financial Aid, please contact our Financial Aid Office directly.

Purchases of Computers, Calculators, and Technology Skills

An English, Windows-based laptop computer is required for the MBA program at the Johnson School. There is extensive information about system requirements and recommended features on the Computer Requirements page on the New Students Website.

You will also need a calculator that can perform common financial functions. An HP 10b or HP 12c is recommended, but other calculators with similar functions can be used.

Technology Skills

At the Johnson School, students rely heavily on strong computer skills, particularly with MS Office applications including Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook. If you need to improve your skills in these programs, we have provided access to computer based training in these programs called SkillSoft. Instructions for accessing this training are found on the Computer Skill Recommendations page on the New Students Website.